Hafa Adai!

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# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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# Q3 revenue 1.46% higher than forecast due to PUA

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI's revenue collection for the third quarter of fiscal year 2021 is $27.74 million, which is 1.46% higher than the forecasted amount of $27.34 million. The Department of Finance attributes this to the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance that taxpayers received.

See PUA on Page 4

## Renewable energy in the 'Hood'

Coldwell Energy chief executive officer David Hood poses with the Tesla Model X. He envisions a CNMI that is independent from fossil fuel use.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Whether it is using sunlight to run appliances at home or machines in factories, running water to provide power to cable trains and windmills to grind grain, renewable energy adaptation is on the rise and sustainability—as well as lesser reliance on fossil fuels— is going mainstream around the world. And David Hood doesn't want the CNMI to lag behind. In fact, he thinks the CNMI is the perfect place for electric cars "be-

See HOOD on Page 4

## CNMI's COVID case total now at 256

### » 9 COVID-related deaths in Guam; 73 hospitalized

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four incoming travelers have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the CNMI's total to 256, according to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. yesterday. In Guam, the Joint Information Center reported nine more COVID-19-related deaths and 73 hospitalized.

See COVID on Page 4

## COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

**LEGEND:**
- **Red:** Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- **Green:** Safest

*Source: Office of the Governor*

## AT A GLANCE

As of 7:26pm, Sept. 14, 2021

### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **80.3%**

Days since last community transmission: **174**

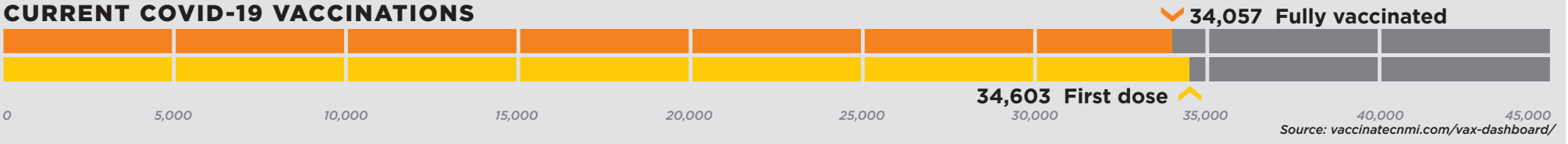
| Pfizer/BioNTech | |
|---|---|
| Initiated: | 29,789 |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 28,919 |
| **Moderna** | |
| Initiated: | 4,814 |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 4,355 |
| **Janssen** | |
| Fully vaccinated: | 783 |

| GUAM | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| Positive | 12,523 | 30 | 12,553 |
| Recovered | | | 10,563 |
| Active | 1,792 | 30 | 1,822 |
| Deaths | 159 | 8 | 168 |

| SAIPAN | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| Positive | 252 | 4 | 256 |
| Traced via Travel Screening | 215 | 4 | 219 |
| Traced via Community Screening | 37 | 0 | 37 |
| Deaths | 2 | 0 | 2 |

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

## CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS




*Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/*

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Climate change could push more than 200 million people to leave their homes in the next three decades.
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# Local

While maritime vessels typically float on water, there are exceptions such as hovercraft and wing-in-ground effect vessels, or WIG craft, that float above the water surface. Photo shows a sample of a WIG Craft.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Start-up airline also looking at interisland travel via Wig Craft

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

Marianas Pacific Airlines, a start-up airline that aims to launch its services by 2022, is also working on acquiring three Wig Crafts, a type of seagoing vessel called "wing-in-ground effect Craft," to provide interisland transportation by the third quarter of 2022.

According to Marianas Pacific's Bill Giles, a Wig Craft is a vessel capable of flying up to 20 feet above water, making them more efficient for inter-island travel compared to regular boats and aircrafts.

"We can we can go up to 20 feet above and it's classified as a boat so it doesn't fall under Federal Aviation Administration regulations but under [the U.S.] Coast Guard. They're many more times more efficient than either aircraft or boats," he said.

Giles said Marianas Pacific sees great potential in operating Wigs in the CNMI because of its many neighboring islands.

"I think this could be a real big potential deal, ultimately because there's no better place in the world than where we're situated right now. We're really looking forward to that. We actually have worked out a deal with them where we have manufacturing rights here on Saipan, CNMI," he said.

Marianas Pacific aims to purchase three to start with, and each one will be able to carry up to 12 passengers and two crew members and sail at speeds of up to 85 mph.

"The first ones we're getting will hold 12 passengers, two crew, and they'll cruise at about 85 miles an hour. We can get from here to Tinian in a few minutes, and we can get from here to Rota in an hour. We are really looking forward to promote that as well," Giles said.

He said Marianas Pacific hopes to have the Wigs in the CNMI as early as the third quarter of 2022.

"We're expecting delivery eight months from the time of our financing, which we're hoping is very soon," he said.

Giles also mentioned that they will not take delivery of these crafts until they are U.S. Coast Guard-approved. "So it will be Coast Guard-approved. We will not take delivery of them until they are. We're going through all that," he said.

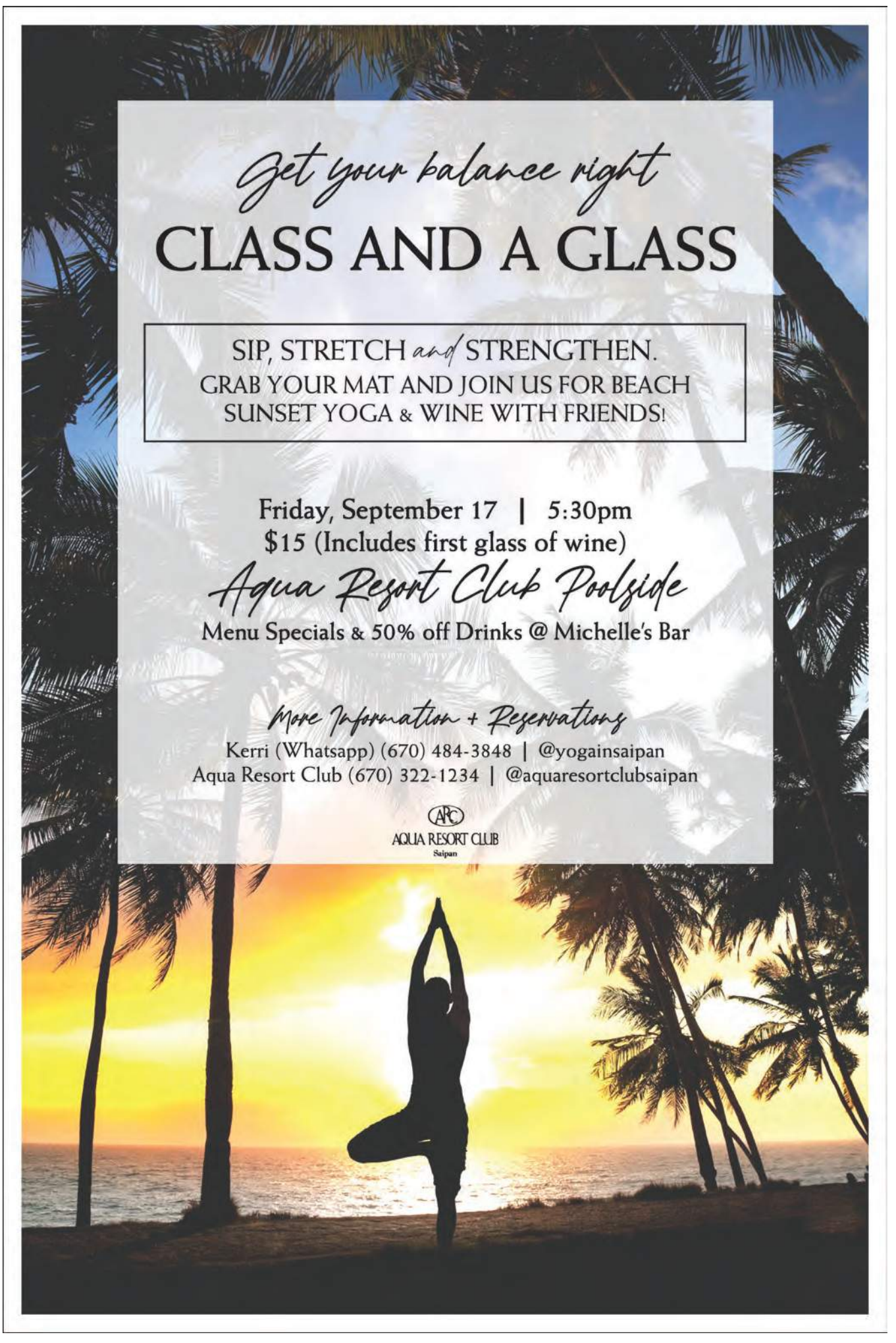
Giles shared that the company that Marianas Pacific is working with in terms of the manufacturing of these Wigs is called Universal Hovercraft based in the United States.

"The guys we're working with have been building smaller version, like six passenger ones, for almost 20 years," he said.

Marianas Pacific's James Blake said the Wigs will not just benefit the people of the CNMI, but it will also give tourists the opportunity to visit neighboring islands like Tinian, Rota, Guam, and even Pagan once it is safe to travel there again.

"This creates a real opportunity to build a wonderful 'Ireland Odyssey' experience for international tourists. This product presents the opportunity for international tourists not just to visit Saipan, but to incorporate some of the other local islands as part of their holiday," he said.

Currently, Wigs are being used in South Korea and Singapore for interisland travel.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# CCC asks for $1M to avert shutdown

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Saying the Commonwealth Casino Commission is in dire need of financial assistance, CCC board chair Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero and CCC executive director Andrew Yeom have asked the central government for $1 million to prevent the commission's shutdown by April 2022.

Specifically, DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said the $1 million could be taken from the annual casino license fee.

In a letter to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Sen. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan (R-Saipan) last Friday, DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom asked for their assistance in allocating and appropriating $1 million to CCC from funds available to the 3rd Senatorial District (Saipan and Northern Islands) from the 2019 annual casino license fee.

Both CCC officials said the $1 million will cover the commission's expenses for five months—from May to September 2022.

The pointed out that CCC continues to suffer from a severe budget shortfall after Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC failed to pay its 2020 annual casino regulatory fee.

Due to budget constraints, the CCC management terminated many of its employees last June, resulting in the loss of 60% of its staff.

Yeon

DeLeon Guerrero

DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said they have reduced all their operational expenses to the bare minimum and that they will continue to do so in every way possible. "At this time, we once again [plead] for your help in keeping the commission afloat to enable the Commonwealth to continue its casino industry by maintaining the presence of the casino regulatory body," the CCC officials said.

With the casino closed since March last year, it has had zero revenue for several months now and IPI has been unable to honor its contractual obligations as outlined in the Casino License Agreement and as required by the CNMI gaming laws.

DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said IPI claimed that their current financial predicament is a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the required quarantined measures and closure of gaming operations implemented by the CNMI government.

IPI has challenged CCC's suspension of its gaming license in the Superior Court by filing an appeal.

DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said it is imperative that CCC maintains its presence to continue the ongoing litigation with IPI over its violations of the Casino License Agreement and casino gaming laws.

The CCC officials believe that it is critical for the CNMI to enable the casino industry to be revived and continue to contribute to the Commonwealth's financial recovery efforts.

They said the Saipan casino industry requires the continued existence of CCC.

Further, they said, Public Law 21-38 granted CCC the authority to issue a new gaming license should IPI's license be revoked.

DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said CCC is in dire need of financial assistance to enable to continue its regulatory enforcement of gaming laws and to see to it that IPI is afforded due process in its appeal.

"It would be reckless and irresponsible to shut down the regulatory body that pursued enforcement actions against the licensee without making every attempt possible to collect what is due to the CNMI," they said.

DeLeon Guerrero and Yeom said CCC cannot continue to operate at its current funding level. They said if additional funding is not made available to the CCC soon, it will be forced to close its operations by the end of April 2022.

They anticipated, however, that additional funding may be available to CCC as part of its casino regulatory fee by the end of September 2022 through resolution and/or settlement of ongoing litigations with IPI.

# Torres: Modernizing business processes is the best thing for govt and businesses

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said Friday that modernizing the business processes in the CNMI is the best thing for the government and its business partners.

Speaking at a radio press briefing, Torres said he "absolutely agrees" with Governor's Council of Economic Advisers Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee chair Mike Sablan's position that this—modernizing business processes—is key to the CNMI's economic recovery.

"We talk about moving forward in making [the CNMI] business-friendly. We talk about the processing for permitting, processing of making payments, one-stop shop," the governor said.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration recently awarded $19.6 million to the Department of Finance for the construction of a new Economic Resiliency Center.

Sablan recently stated in a column the establishment of the Economic Business Center and the development of a coordinated and modernized system to handle business transactions will streamline the permitting, procurement, and contract management processes.

Torres also commended Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig and his team for working on this Economic Resiliency Center project.

The governor said modernizing the system will not just make the process business-friendly but also to track down where those permits and payments are. "So definitely it will expedite the process and waiting time," he said.

Torres said he looks forward to the construction of the Economic Resiliency Center. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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# Prosecution to drop charges vs deceased accused of child abuse

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The prosecution in the case of one of two women charged with child abuse wants to move the court to dismiss the charges against one of the defendants who recently passed away.

The case of Lynn Fitial, one of two women who were charged with child abuse over the death of a 3-year-old boy, was recently taken off calendar due to illness. Last week, it was learned that the Office of the Attorney General's criminal division will ask the court to dismiss the charge of child abuse against Fitial following her recent passing. The cause of her death was not immediately learned.

As for Stacey Laniyo, the other woman involved in the child abuse case, her request for a new trial is scheduled to be heard before Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo on Sept. 23 at 1:30pm.

Fitial, 45, and Laniyo, 37, were arrested following the death of the 3-year-old boy who was adopted by Fitial and her partner, Laniyo.

Laniyo and Fitial, who were each charged with one count of child abuse, were to have separate trials.

According to court documents, Laniyo struck the boy with a tree branch, a broom, or her hand or by biting him resulting in injury clearly beyond the scope of reasonable corporal punishment and harming or threatening the child's physical or mental health and wellbeing.

As for Fitial, the prosecution said she failed to provide medical care for the boy resulting in his death.

## HOOD

*From Page 1*

cause we don't go or drive very far."

Hood, who is CEO of Coldwell Solar Inc. in California and is now based on Saipan as Coldwell Energy, wants to bring sustainable transportation technology into our neighborhood. He spent 35 years as a real estate builder and developer but, around 10 years ago, together with his son, they started a solar company catering to utility scale and larger solar projects. "I wanted to get into 100% renewable energy and that's what we did as a family business," he said. Currently, they are expanding outside California, in states like Nevada, Washington, and Oregon to look for potential projects.

In 2013, Hood visited the CNMI and, according to him, he fell in love with Saipan instantly and has found his retirement place. It took him a couple of years to make the commitment to stay. Today, he has bought a house and will get into the local coffee business soon but he remains true to his original vision.

"The solar business in California is still full on. …Due to the pandemic, bringing the business here will be a slow process for now and, instead, I would rather use my expertise and my passion for renewable and sustainable energy in helping out the islands with all things green," he said.

When Hood first came here, one of the early things he noticed is that there weren't any electric cars. "I also have not seen or met anybody who is thinking about it so I thought, 'I'm a renewable energy guy who also loves cars and I'll just do it. Why not bring these technologies here just like what they have in the mainland?' So I brought two electric cars to the islands—a Tesla Model X version and a recent addition is the 2022 Nissan Leaf." Hood said he has been asking around about electric cars and some didn't seem to be interested or didn't understand how it works. "My goal is to bring those cars here, test them, see how well they do and share the information with the community. Part of this is recording what the mileage is going to be, how will they charge and how quickly. We are also going to look at the downsides but I am finding that these are going to be less expensive than fossil fuel… That's what we have already seen the past few weeks with the Tesla Model X."

What some people don't seem to realize is that one can charge these electric cars either in 110 or 220 plugs at home, Hood said. "When you plug it in, it charges about a mile for every two minutes with 220. The Tesla Model X can go 220 miles in just six to seven hours of charging."

Right now, Hood still uses a conventional, gasoline-powered car but when he goes to the gas station to fill his tank with $80 worth of gas once a week, he asks himself, "…Do I have any choice? When I hand that credit card, I always think, there has to be a better way."

"With e-cars, I can control my energy independence. I can add some solar panels, I can do one of those chargers that uses just the sun. The bottom line is it's going to be less expensive even if I use [power from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] because I can charge this car for about $25 versus $80 worth of fuel. If you drive 20 miles a day with a car that can go 220 miles then your power is good for 10 days," he said. Furthermore, if one uses CUC and adds five to 10 solar panels to that mix, from $25 it would go down to probably $10 to fill your car with power that will give you many lower cost miles," he added. Hood understands that using CUC will still have some carbon footprint because the utility company uses diesel for its generators. "Part of the plan is to bring some chargers here so that you don't have to hook to CUC at all. We are working on some prototypes rights now—when you plug your e-car, it is 100% solar."

Hood was quick to clarify that he does not intend to eventually put up a car dealership. "I have no desire to go into that. I have a desire to open people's minds to the possibility of something different by introducing these cars to the CNMI," he said. "I want to accomplish two things: Reduce use of fossil fuel and affordability. …We clean up the air, use renewable energy that is sustainable and affordable for people in the long run. …This is energy independence. …It's not a perfect solution but it is just the next step to help. There will be some more things coming but this is just the beginning. …I want to be that guy that will give it a shot and I think people will see that it will probably take off," he added.

Hood said that once they are ready with the data, they are going to share with the public the results of using e-cars on island. "We will tell people so they can read about it and be informed. …They can even take the cars for a test drive. …Why are we sharing all the information? Because it's the right thing to do. …Extending information about reducing carbon footprint on island is overdue. This is just another way that we can help our future."

## COVID

*From Page 1*

CHCC said the four new positive cases were identified by travel screening, and confirmed positive through fifth-day testing and arrival testing on Sept. 13. The individuals are quarantined and are now being monitored. CHCC's Communicable Disease Investigation/ Inspection team has already initiated contact tracing for those in closest contact with the four individuals. CHCC also reported Tuesday that there are currently no active hospitalizations due to COVID-19.

Guam's JIC on Monday night reported nine more COVID-19-related deaths, and reported that there are currently 73 hospitalizations in Guam due to COVID-19. Of the 73 hospitalized, 44 are unvaccinated, seven have unknown vaccination status, and one is ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Guam's 160th to 168th COVID-19-related deaths are as follows:

■ An unvaccinated 81-year-old male with unknown underlying health conditions who had tested positive on Sept. 4 and was pronounced dead at Guam Memorial Hospital on Sept. 4;

■ An unvaccinated 95-year-old male with known underlying health conditions and who was also a known positive case and was pronounced dead at the Guam Regional Medical City on Sept. 9;

■ An unvaccinated 77-year-old male with known underlying health conditions who tested positive for COVID-19 on Sept. 10 and was pronounced dead on arrival at GMH on Sept. 10;

■ A vaccinated 68-year-old female with underlying health conditions who was admitted on Aug. 30 and was a known positive case and was pronounced dead at the GRMC on Sept. 10;

■ An unvaccinated 55-year-old male with known underlying health conditions who tested positive on Aug. 30 and was pronounced dead on arrival at GMH on Sept. 10;

■ An unvaccinated 56-year-old male with unknown underlying health conditions who tested positive on Sept. 9 and was pronounced dead on arrival at GMH on Sept. 11;

■ An unvaccinated 29-year-old male with unknown underlying health conditions who tested positive for COVID-19 on Sept. 11 and was pronounced dead at GMH on Sept. 11;

■ An unvaccinated 80-year-old female with underlying health conditions and pronounced dead at GRMC on Sept. 11; and

■ A vaccinated 62-year-old male with unknown underlying health conditions and was pronounced dead on arrival at the GRMC on Sept. 12.

Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero urged the Guam community to maintain its resilience during these times of uncertainty.

"As we grieve more loss within our community, we are reminded of the challenges and tragedy that we continue to face. We may be overcome with hopelessness and despair during these times of uncertainty, but what is certain is the history of our people—and how time and time again we find our resiliency, and forge ahead to do everything we can protect ourselves and those we love," she said.

## PUA

*From Page 1*

It's not all roses, though, and Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig cautions that the highly infectious delta variant of the COVID-19 virus—which is blamed for the recent surge of infections in Guam and other parts of the United States—could still wreak havoc on the CNMI's economy.

In his third quarter financial report with an ending report date of June 30, 2021, that he submitted to House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Atalig stated that prior to the onset of the delta variant, the economic outlook for the resumption of tourism was promising. Now the delta variant could impede the CNMI's economic outlook in the future, said Atalig.

The secretary said the partial resumption of tourism through the Travel Bubble agreement with South Korea is predicted to result in increased levels of commercial activity in the CNMI; however, the restrictions placed on travelers and the size of the planned resumption will not be sufficient to realize pre-COVID-19 levels of economic activity anytime soon.

Atalig said that, in Quarter 3, Wage and Salary Tax collections stood at $7.82 million or approximately 18.91% more than the forecasted amount of $6.57 million.

He said the Quarter 3 Northern Marianas Territorial Income Tax collections of personal income amounted to $4.69 million, which he directly attributed to the taxes received from PUA funding and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation funding dispersed to recipients.

He said Corporate Income Tax collection was valued at $1.45 million compared to the forecasted amount of $498,400.

Atalig said Business Gross Revenue Tax collection is $11.80 million, which amounts to approximately 19.89% less than the forecasted amount.

He said Excise Tax collections yielded $7.18 million or 27.43% less than the forecasted budget.

The secretary said the CNMI received the completed Federal Emergency Management Agency Community Disaster Loan in Fiscal Year 2021 Quarter 3 in the amount of $88.73 million. He said with this CDL grant revenue, the CNMI was able to reimburse the CNMI general fund for prior expenses, and this allowed the Commonwealth to fund prior and current obligations and appropriations to government entities and vendors.

At the Senate's session yesterday, Sen. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) said she is not too sure if the $88.73 million is the entire principal amount of the loan from FEMA, or is that a remainder of the principal amount of the note.

"So I would like to request a much more greater detail reporting on this particular loan for the Commonwealth," she said.

The senator said she is sure that the entire Senate wants to know how much exactly the CNMI owes vendors and other government entities with respect to prior and current obligations. *(*Saipan Tribune *will publish Thursday more of DeLeon Guerrero's comments)*

Atalig said that funding for education, medical referral, retirees, and other programs would have been severely crippled without the FEMA CDL.

He said the 25% retiree pension expenses amounting to $4.49 million for Quarter 3 were funded by the FEMA CDL, and that CDL will cover the remaining expenses for the 25% retiree pension for fiscal year 2021.

The secretary noted the $20.20-million expense for the Government Health and Life Insurance employer share and retiree share. He said this includes current year and prior year payments due to GHLI vendors.

Atalig also highlighted the $24.20 million expense (FEMA reimbursable) for disaster response. He said the CNMI must record these expenses prior to FEMA reimbursement.

Atalig said that, while PUA has supported consumption expenditures despite the widespread impact of COVID-19 on the labor market, the data from Quarter 3 shows continual impacts on the wider economy outside of domestic consumption.

In normal circumstances, the tourism industry increases overall demand for goods and services by greatly expanding the consumers present on the island at any given time, Atalig said. He said this increase in tourists provides additional consumption of goods and services, increased business revenue and a demand to necessitate further import to serve as the basis for excise taxation.

Atalig said recent changes in the eligibility criteria for PUA relief may have pronounced impacts on business gross revenue receipts as businesses may not be able to retain the employees necessary to support operations.

He said under the current guidance provided to the government, employees under reduced work hours or who have been furloughed from employment are no longer eligible for PUA payments.

"This would reduce our wage and salary tax collected," Atalig said.

# Tasi to Table program for 2021-'22 school year starts in Oct.

The eight-month Tasi to Table program for students on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is set to begin this October.

In a Sept. 8 newsletter, Tasi to Table—a program that seeks to instill the love of fishing and the sea among the youth while also allowing participants to earn high school credits—announced that advisers from all of the CNMI's public schools will soon meet with TTT to finalize what the organization has planned for the 2021-2022 Public School System school year.

TTT advisers from Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, Da'ok Academy, Tinian Jr/Sr High School, and Rita H. Inos Jr/Sr High School will soon be recruiting students during school club fairs. Participants will be exposed to lessons in sustainable fishing practices, boating safety, fishing rod and reel maintenance, and other fishing-related topics of interest.

Last school year, TTT had an eight-month program at participating schools on Saipan, and launched four-month pilot programs on Tinian and Rota. This year, all students on the three islands will be participating in fully-fledged eight-month programs.

Also in the newsletter, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, an avid fisherman himself, lauded TTT. "This program has proven itself time and time again. I have witnessed several activities with TTT and I am in support as it is a great program for our CNMI youth. If we can get even one of the students to pursue a career in what TTT offers, it is a success and we hope that we can get students up north for an experience of a lifetime," said Torres, referring to the largely uninhabited Northern Islands of the CNMI, which boast fertile fishing grounds. ***(Joshua Santos)***

# TSL Foundation raises over $20K for Humanities Council

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, third from right, and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, second from right, join Northern Marianas Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero, center, and member Lee Tenorio, second from left, TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan, rightmost, vice president for corporate affairs and human resources Catherine Attao-Toves, leftmost, and Tan Siu Lin Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, third from left, for a group photo during the donation presentation ceremony for the Field of Heroes: We Will Never Forget last Friday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation was able to raise $20,894 from its "Field of Heroes: We Will Never Forget" event, which is a CNMI-wide commemoration event for 9/11.

TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino shared the good news last Friday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium during the proclamation signing declaring September as the Field of Heroes: We Will Never Forget Month. The funds were then donated to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council to support its health and wellness programs for the CNMI's community heroes and their families. Tolentino, TanHoldings vice president for corporate affairs and human resources Catherine Attao-Toves, and TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan presented the ceremonial check to Northern Marianas Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios joining the donation turnover ceremony.

Guerrero thanked the TSL Foundation for organizing the 9/11 commemoration event and the individuals and companies that supported the Field of Heroes, as their generosity will go a long way in helping fund projects for the CNMI's community heroes. She said the Northern Marianas Humanities Council will continue to lead activities and raise awareness of issues affecting the islands' community heroes.

Sgt. First Class Darlene Manglona, who joined the group of military personnel honored in last Friday's event, said the support and appreciation they get from the community gives them strength and courage everyday as they fulfill their duties and responsibilities, especially during difficult times.

Meanwhile, Tan said that TanHoldings and the TSL Foundation are honored to hold an event dedicated to first responders, law enforcement officers, military personnel, and veterans. He added that a lot have changed since the 9/11 attacks 20 years ago, but the one thing that has remained constant is the community's heroes' commitment to their sworn duties.

"In 2001, the firefighters who rushed into the World Trade Center tried to save lives even though they knew they would probably die. But they still performed their jobs. ...Today, because of the pandemic, people are scared and want to stay home. But look at the first responders at the airport, at the quarantine center, and at the hospital. They go to work every day so that the rest of us will be safe. The sacrifices that the first responders make are real," Tan said.

This year's Field of Heroes: We Will Never Forget is the sixth edition of the commemoration event and the TSL Foundation vows to continue the memorial and other related activities. The foundation also thanked the following for the success of the event: Heritage sponsor J.C. Tenorio Enterprises; field sponsors National Park Service/American Memorial Park, Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan, and Office of the Mayor of Rota ; star and stripes sponsors E-Land Group, D&Q, IT&E, Hotel Valentino, GPPC, Triple J, TakeCare, and *Marianas Variety*; patron sponsor Docomo Pacific, Shirley's Coffee Shop, McDonald's, MARPAC, and First Hawaiian Bank; and other sponsors JET Holding, City Trust Bank, Pacific Trading, Co., Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Hardt Eye Clinic. ***(PR)***

# 4 NMC alumni pass NCLEX

Fauni

Lopez

Alejo

Yang

2021 Northern Marianas College nursing graduates Mariol Lopez, Francheska Fauni, Philip Alejo, and Xiao Fei Yang have passed the rigorous National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX, on their first attempt taking the test.

The NCLEX-RN tests an individual's nursing knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. The exam is used by nursing boards in all U.S. states and territories to award nursing licenses.

NMC Nursing Department chair Rosa Aldan said she is very proud of the students. "We are very proud of their amazing accomplishment despite being faced with an ongoing pandemic," Aldan said. "We are excited to see them grow in their careers as nurses and serve our CNMI community, especially during this time."

Fauni said her primary motivation for becoming a nurse was her parents, who are both nurses.

"Growing up, I've witnessed them embody the purpose of what it is to be a nurse—someone with determination, self-will and passion to help care for those in need," Fauni said. "Nursing is a very influential and rewarding profession, which allowed me to see people at their most fragile state but also have the chance to see them at their best, knowing that I was a part of their lives."

Lopez said that NMC helped her prepare well for the exam. "NMC provided me with great instructors who really cared about my progress and pushed me to reach my full potential," Lopez said.

According to Lopez, having a support system was also crucial to her preparation for the NCLEX. "I am very grateful for my family and friends for always believing in me even during the days when I didn't believe in myself," Lopez said.

NMC nursing graduate Alejo said he became a nurse so that he could help his parents. "I always wanted to give back to them for raising me and to return the favor for their hard work and sacrifices by taking care of them as they age," Alejo said.

Alejo's advice for students planning to take the NCLEX is for them to take the time to manage their anxiety. "While preparing for the NCLEX, I experienced this lingering feeling that I didn't know enough," Alejo said. "Clear your mind of those doubts and you would be surprised at how much you actually know."

Yang, who also passed the NCLEX this year, said that NMC prepared her well. "I am very grateful to NMC for having a nursing program," Yang said. "I am also very grateful for the instructors who helped me complete my nursing courses."

Yang studied nursing in her home country of China and also worked as a nurse there.

For more information about NMC's nursing program, email Aldan at rosa.aldan@marianas.edu or call 237-6744. ***(NMC)***

# Pagan alert level lowered to Yellow

The explosive eruption of the Pagan volcano, that started on Sept. 1 has already ended or paused for now. The activity was characterized by low-level ash emissions.

The eruption calmed down on Sept. 6 as Volcanic Ash Advisory Center Tokyo and the observatory Northern Mariana Islands detected ash and sulfur dioxide emissions in satellite data.

The alert level for the volcano was lowered to "yellow."

It is unclear whether the eruption has paused or ended. Emissions of ash and gas could resume without warning.

The U.S. Geological Survey upgraded the Aviation Color Code/Volcano Alert Level for the Pagan volcano to ORANGE/WATCH last Sept. 2, 2021, following the observation of low-level emissions from the volcano for most of Sept. 1, 2021.

Under the USGS alert-level system for volcanic activity, ORANGE/WATCH means the volcano is exhibiting heightened or escalating unrest with increased potential of eruption (timeframe uncertain) or that an eruption is underway with no or minor volcanic-ash emissions but poses limited hazards.

*Source: Northern Mariana Islands Volcano Observatory volcano activity update 12 September 2021* ***(www.volcanodiscovery.com)***

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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## EDITORIAL

# President Biden escalates the COVID-19 vaccination push. He had no choice

The government's first responsibility is to protect human lives. So President Joe Biden on Thursday was right and right on time to lay down a simple "no jab, no job" COVID-19 vaccine ultimatum for the nation's largest employer, Uncle Sam, as well as for federal contractors.

His most sweeping mandate—a Labor Department rule requiring all private businesses with more than 100 employees make their workers get their shots, or take weekly coronavirus tests, with penalties of up to $14,000 per violation—will be a challenge to defend against inevitable lawsuits. (Can a work-from-home employee be compelled to get vaccinated? Will the legal logic hold even though vaccination does not stop spread?) But give the president credit for trying to save lives, and for taking the mandate of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration both seriously and literally.

Others should follow his lead, as the Los Angeles schools did by making all eligible students get vaccinated. If students must get their shots for largely conquered diseases like polio and diphtheria, as they do across America, the case is 10 times stronger to guard against a raging plague that's clogging hospitals.

More than 650,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. If current daily death counts fueled by the contagious delta variant (in excess of 1,500) remain constant, that horrifying total will reach 1 million in just 233 more days.

They will not remain constant. To some extent, the virus ebbs and flows in ways beyond our control. To a larger extent, the United States controls its destiny, with masking one way to slow spread and an ample supply of free, highly effective vaccines that all but guarantee those who get infected will not land in the ICU or the graveyard. Yet just 54% of Americans have gotten their shots, an unacceptably low rate.

The weapons to win the war are in our hands. The only way out of another year of agony and Zoom funerals and widespread economic disruption is the inoculation of millions. Roll up your sleeve, America.

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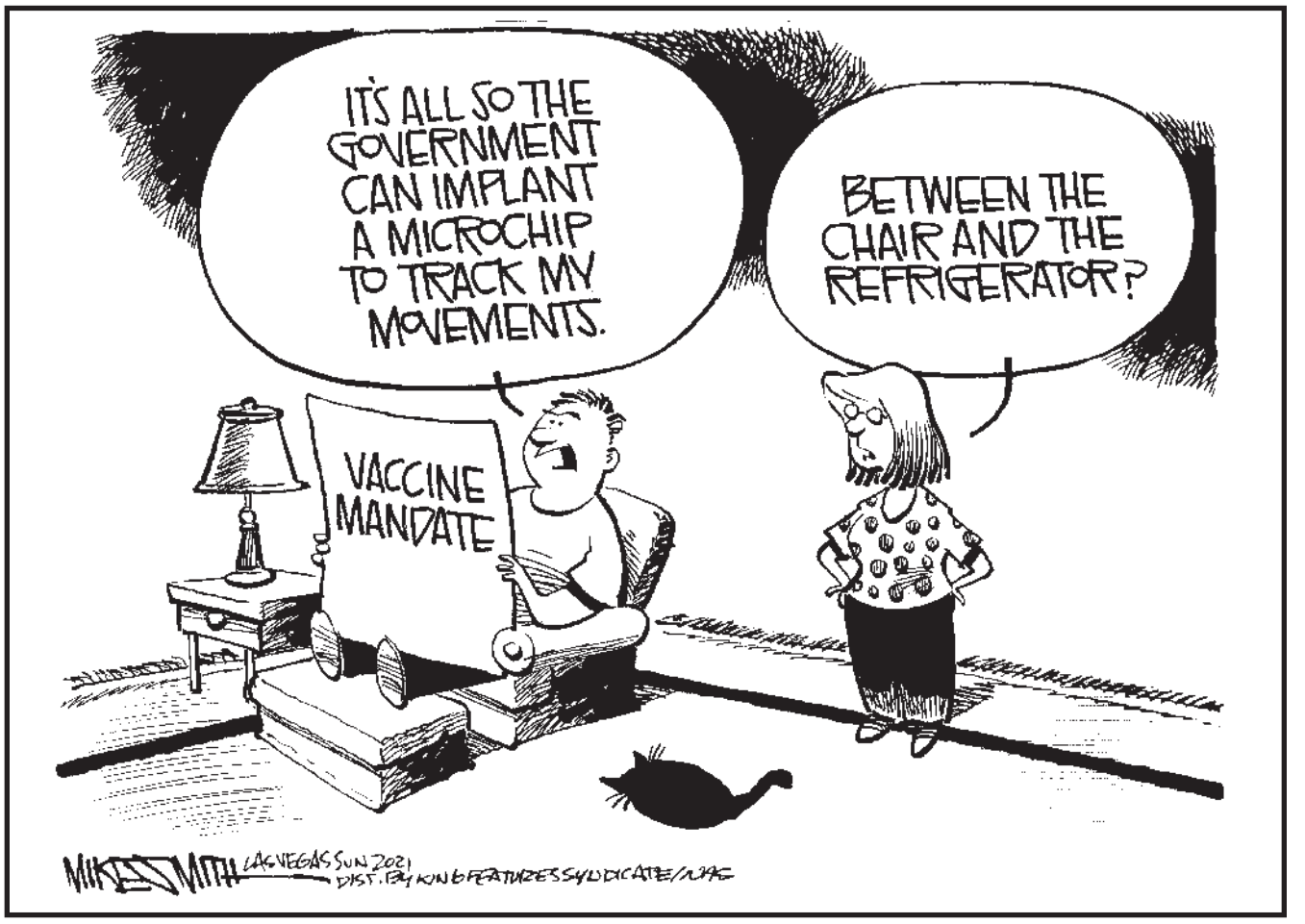
IT'S ALL SO THE GOVERNMENT CAN IMPLANT A MICROCHIP TO TRACK MY MOVEMENTS.
BETWEEN THE CHAIR AND THE REFRIGERATOR?
VACCINE MANDATE
MIKE SMITH LAS VEGAS SUN 2021
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# The so-called 'techlash' is mostly in the minds of the media

**By LEONID BERSHIDSKY**
Bloomberg Opinion

*Leonid Bershidsky is a member of the Bloomberg News Automation team based in Berlin. He was previously Bloomberg Opinion's Europe columnist. He recently authored a Russian translation of George Orwell's* 1984.

Remember how, in late 2018, the Financial Times declared "techlash"—the backlash against the giant U.S. technology companies and all they represent—word of the year? It also made Oxford Languages' word-of-the-year shortlist then, but lost to "toxic."

To judge by the amount of negative publicity the companies continue to generate, techlash is still with us—but as far as both markets and users are concerned, it's an empty word.

Every year since at least 2018, Facebook Inc. has led the S&P 500 companies in the number of days it faced negative news sentiment (1), and Alphabet Inc.'s Google and Twitter Inc. have been in the top 10. Facebook averaged 255 negative news days in 2018 through 2020 and has had 157 such days so far this year; Google and Twitter haven't been far behind. But the ceaseless beating the companies have been taking in the news contrasts with the relentless rise in their stock prices. In 2018 and 2019, Facebook was the S&P 500 company with the most days when its stock price rose despite negative news sentiment. In 2020 and 2021, Google took over the top spot, with Facebook directly behind.

You could seemingly publish anything about these companies, their privacy-invading data-gathering practices, their promotion of pernicious political views and anti-vaccine propaganda, their monopoly power; you could even report on enormous fines imposed on the firms by regulators in Europe and the U.S., on lawsuits and antitrust proceedings—yet nothing would deter investors from buying. Since the start of 2018, Twitter's market capitalization has increased by a factor of 2.8, Google's by 2.6, and Facebook's has doubled; the market cap of the S&P 500 has, meanwhile, increased a mere 69%—and these years have been when news sentiment has been consistently worse for the three tech firms than for any of their S&P 500 peers.

Arguably, the market has been reacting to the companies' stellar financials—Google's net income, for example, has grown by more than 30% a year during this time, and Facebook's profit growth has averaged more than 40%—rather than to all the negative coverage. Ordinary users, meanwhile, have grown to regard the tech whales as evil. This year's Edelman Trust Barometer showed the lowest-ever public confidence in technology companies, at 68% compared with 76% in 2017; in the U.S., trust in tech is even lower at 57%. Trust in social media as an information source is also at the lowest level ever.

You can't easily reconcile these trust levels with the user numbers that the tech companies report to investors. Facebook says it has 1.9 billion daily active users, up 460 million since the first quarter of 2018; Twitter has 206 million, up 86 million. And even if the companies exaggerate these hard-to-check numbers by, for instance, not adequately counting users with multiple accounts, the steadily growing profits aren't, after all, the result of price gouging—that's not an accusation the Googles and Facebooks of this world have faced, yet. Instead, they reflect advertisers' continued reliance on them, a reliance that would not be there if the ads didn't convert to sales.

If users really considered the tech leaders evil, they'd abandon them in droves. Sure, network effects are hard to overcome, as my Bloomberg Opinion colleague Parmy Olson recently wrote, using the example of Facebook's WhatsApp messenger, which appeared to bleed users after a change in privacy standards but ended up showing exemplary resilience. The power of these effects can be frightening: A U.S. government ban on Huawei's use of Google software has all but killed the Chinese company's then-market leading Android phone business, driving a high-quality hardware producer into a ditch because most users couldn't imagine a Google-free life. And yet viable alternatives do exist, even in heavily monopolized areas such as internet search, not to mention mobile messaging; it's just that the household names aren't really any less attractive for most people than these alternatives. They aren't evil enough for the daily user to go to any trouble at all.

When regulators take action against Big Tech, they understandably react to media reports—that barrage of negative news sentiment. The media, however, are Big Tech's direct competitors in battles for audience attention and advertising dollars; I'd argue that we journalists are naturally motivated to consider Google, Facebook, even Twitter evil, no matter how objective we try to appear. I'll be the first to admit that I'm biased in my thinking about them: These companies have all but ruined the professional world and the industry in which I started out and which I came to understand and love. Most officials and politicians grew up in my world, too; to them, reacting to sustained

***See TECHLASH on Next Page***

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# The worst thing about 3 bad Texas laws

**By JOHN M. CRISP**
Tribune News Service

*John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.*

When your home state is prominent in the headlines, it's usually not a good thing.

Tell me about it: I live in Texas.

Texas's current notoriety derives from its recent passage of three bad laws: Senate Bill 1, Senate Bill 8 and House Bill 1927. Collectively, they mean: less voting, less reproductive freedom and more guns.

These laws reflect unfavorably on Texas, but in defense of my state—my family moved here in the 1840s—do note that similar laws have been proposed and implemented in many other states, as well. And while this law-making mischief is mostly homegrown, Texans don't hold a monopoly on legislative malfeasance.

In fact, Texas bestows enormous power on its lieutenant governor, Dan Patrick, who was a primary driver behind these laws. He was born in Baltimore. The third-most-prominent statewide office belongs to Attorney General Ken Paxton, who has vowed to defend these laws. He was born in North Dakota.

But that's no excuse.

SB 1: This is another of those election laws that many red states are trying to implement based on the persistent lie that the 2020 election was stolen. Among other provisions, it puts an end to drive-thru or 24-hour voting.

During the pandemic, Harris County (Houston) discovered that it could facilitate voting by making those options available. For Republicans, alas, many who used these methods turned out to be voters of color. So SB 1 puts an end to that, even though there is no evidence of significant voter fraud in Texas or elsewhere.

SB 8: This law bans abortions in Texas after about six weeks, a clear violation of the constitutional right established by Roe v. Wade in 1973. According to a 2018 Quinnipiac poll, 62% of Texans support Roe v. Wade.

SB 8 makes no exceptions for women who are victims of rape or incest. Not to worry: Gov. Greg Abbott said last week that he is going to "eliminate all rapists" from Texas. If he misses a few, there's a six-week grace period on pregnancies from rape. But as soon as the rape is over, the clock starts ticking.

HB 1927: This law says that just about anyone in Texas can carry a gun just about anywhere. No license is required, nor is training or any demonstration of proficiency. Like SB 8, this law does not reflect the wishes of most Texans. In May a University of Texas/Texas Tribune poll found that 59% oppose unlicensed carry, and 46% favor more strict gun laws. So much for the will of the people.

SB 1, SB 8 and HB 1927 are bad in their individual ways. Taken together they create and encourage an extremely un-American and dangerous mindset.

For example, SB 1 increases the powers of so-called poll watchers, while increasing penalties for violationSB elections officials. Seriously, do you want a burly white man—and it will be a man—who has been duped by the "Big Lie" looking over your shoulder when you vote?

SB 8 contains an unprecedented provision that confers responsibility for its enforcement on private citizens, who are empowered to collect $10,000 plus court costs for suing anyone remotely connected to an illegal abortion in Texas, which now is nearly all of them.

And supporters of HB 1927 like to talk about more freedom to carry guns in public in terms of personal protection. But when you see tough-looking men in camouflage brandishing military-style semi-automatic weapons at rallies and protests, you know that they are not thinking about protecting themselves. They're projecting power, coercion and intimidation.

The subtext of all this bad legislation is that the social contract has failed and that responsibility for order and law enforcement has devolved to private citizens. All three Texas laws embody elements of vigilantism, coercion and the force of the minority over the majority.

It's naïve to think that Jan. 6 was a one-off. The bad ideas that inflamed it are finding their ways into legislation. Next time, the insurgents will feel even more emboldened. And they'll probably be better armed.

# No, Afghanistan is not the end of American power

**By RICH LOWRY**
(c) 2021 by King Features Synd., Inc.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the* National Review.

It's hard to imagine more humiliating images than what we've seen in Afghanistan in recent weeks, from the hasty evacuation of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to the chaotic scenes outside the airport.

Our surrender to a band of AK-47-bearing guerrillas after 20 years has, understandably, occasioned autumnal thoughts about American power.

Even the Soviet Union, on the cusp of full collapse, managed to get out of Afghanistan in good order and leave behind a government that endured for several years.

What does it say that we couldn't match that?

Writing in *The New Yorker*, Robin Wright says the pullout may serve as "a bookend for the era of U.S. global power." Allister Heath, editor of The *Sunday Telegraph*, argues that "the botched exit is merely the latest sign that the American era is ending." Francis Fukuyama says the images in Kabul "have evoked a major juncture in world history," although he thinks "the end of the American era had come much earlier."

There is no sugar-coating our defeat in Afghanistan and the abject position we put ourselves in during the final days. The withdrawal is a blow to our counterterrorism capabilities, our prestige and our geopolitical position.

For all of that, though, no one in the world has the formidable advantages of the United States, which still outstrips everyone else, including China, on every material metric that matters.

Great powers don't go away easily. The British could be forgiven for thinking that it'd be all downhill after losing their American colonies in a long war joined by their traditional rivals France and Spain. Instead, British imperial power had not yet peaked.

Our exit from Saigon in 1975, to this point the touchstone for modern American defeats, was followed by Communist advances all over the map. Yet, within 20 years, we'd win the Cold War and ascend to unprecedented global power.

We are still blessed with an extraordinarily favorable geographical position, as a continental nation with friendly neighbors, access to two oceans, enormous reserves of oil and gas, and vast amounts of arable land.

We produce about a quarter of global GDP, a share that has held up over the years.

We are responsible for an astonishing 40% of all military spending in the world. It was ridiculous that Biden made a bragging point of the evacuation, but it's true that no one else would have been capable of such an operation.

We dominate the list of top universities in the world.

There is no country people would rather come to. A Taliban spokesperson interviewed on Iranian TV, when challenged why so many people want to flee Afghanistan, rightly pointed out that if American planes were taking people out of Iran, there'd be a rush for the exits there, too.

In his book, "Unrivaled," Michael Beckley of Tufts University and the American Enterprise Institute rebuts the notion that China is overtaking us.

American workers are more productive than workers anywhere else. China's labor productivity has improved, Beckley writes, "but remains half that of Turkey, lower than Mexico's, and roughly on par with Brazil's."

We have demographic challenges, but other big powers, especially China, will be aging faster. Over the course of the century, Beckley notes, China will lose half of its workforce, or 470 million people.

Our alliance system is an enormous force-multiplier, a network that, according to Beckley, "encompasses 25% of the Earth's population and accounts for 75% of world GDP and defense spending." China's formal ally, in contrast, is North Korea.

None of this is to deny that the contemporary United States is racked by self-doubt, poisonous politics and institutional failure.

It is only to say that if we are determined to squander our global position, it will take much more time and folly to do it. A further downward slide, like the disastrous withdrawal from Kabul itself, will be a choice, not an inevitability.

## TECHLASH

*From Page 8*

media sentiment like the kind that has developed around Big Tech is a matter of long practice.

Yet when it comes to ordinary users, the professional media are yet another increasingly unreliable source. We may gloat about the falling trust in the social media, but the same Edelman Trust Barometer shows the lowest confidence in traditional media since at least 2012—53% globally, down from 63% in 2018, at the beginning of "techlash"; 59% of respondents say that journalists intentionally mislead them and that they are more interested in pushing ideologies than in reporting facts. With majorities feeling that way, no wonder people don't attach much importance to media attacks on tech.

To give a recent example, ProPublica, the nonprofit organization that promotes investigative journalism, has revealed the little-known fact that contract workers check not just the messages reported by users as pernicious but also those that came immediately before them; rather than deny this practice, Facebook has said it's normal to examine the context when complaints are made, and that doing so doesn't undermine the privacy protections accorded by end-to-end encryption. As a journalist, I'm inclined to side with ProPublica—but to an everyday user, even if she takes notice of the controversy at all, it pits one relatively untrustworthy source against another.

Given the news climate and regulators' behavior, tech companies are, of course, among the biggest lobbying spenders. According to OpenSecrets, Facebook spent $19.7 million last year and $9.6 million so far this year on lobbying. But these amounts are tiny given the scale of its operations. If techlash were real, they would be woefully insufficient to defend the social networking giant from popular anger. As it is, the media will keep chipping away at tech power, and regulators will bite, sometimes painfully. But they will not undo the highly questionable business models that sustain digital advertising leaders; users just don't care enough for a tech counterrevolution to break out.

I'm in constant search of alternatives to the tech giants' services. I've replaced them everywhere I could, and I'll replace the services I'm still using as soon as comparable alternatives become available. Yet I have no illusions about people like me undermining Big Tech's market power in any meaningful way. There are enough of us to keep its smaller competitors alive, but that's the extent of it. Techlash, let's face it, is a niche phenomenon.

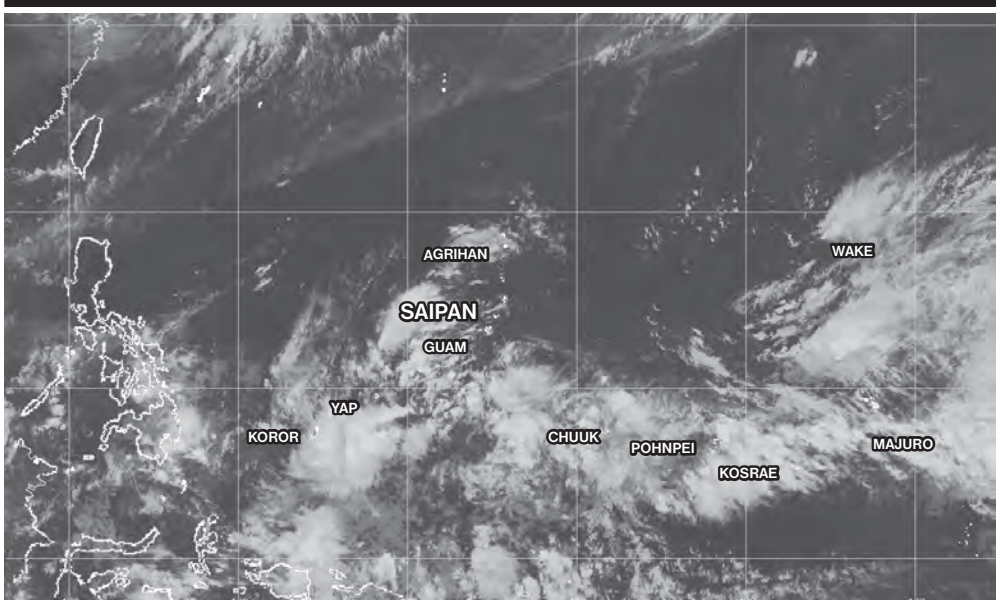
*[1]Bloomberg uses supervised machine learning to determine the sentiment in news stories from the point of view of an investor who holds a long position in a stock. The indicator used here is the daily average news sentiment.*

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Highs near 87. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. | Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| 87° 78° | 87° 78° | 87° 78° | 87° 78° | 87° 78° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 7:26 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows partly sunny skies and isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters. Clearer skies and drier weather are seen to the east. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, which are composed primarily of an east-northeast trade-wind swell and east-southeast wind waves.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 86° / 79° |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 84° / 76° |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 85° / 77° |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 88° / 79° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 86° / 77° |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 86° / 77° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 85° / 79° |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:05 AM | 6:18 PM |
| Thursday | 6:05 AM | 6:17 PM |
| Friday | 6:05 AM | 6:17 PM |
| Saturday | 6:05 AM | 6:16 PM |
| Sunday | 6:05 AM | 6:15 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | - | 12:18 AM | 1:53 PM |
| Thursday | - | 1:18 AM | 2:51 PM |
| Friday | - | 2:20 AM | 3:45 PM |
| Saturday | - | 3:20 AM | 4:34 PM |
| Sunday | - | 4:17 AM | 5:18 PM |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 61° / 52° |
| Beijing | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 70° |
| Hong Kong | Thunderstorms | 90° / 82° |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 88° / 75° |
| London | Showers | 73° / 59° |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | 77° / 63° |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 90° / 79° |
| Melbourne | Showers | 54° / 39° |
| Miami | Cloudy | 88° / 81° |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | 82° / 73° |
| Osaka | Thunderstorms | 91° / 79° |
| Paris | Showers | 79° / 64° |
| Busan | Thunderstorms | 86° / 75° |
| Rome | Sunny | 95° / 72° |
| Salem | Thunderstorms | 92° / 75° |
| San Francisco | Sunny | 66° / 57° |
| Seoul | Thunderstorms | 84° / 72° |
| Tokyo | Thunderstorms | 82° / 73° |
| Washington, DC | Thunderstorms | 87° / 75° |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 12:46 AM | High Tide | 1.78 |
| 8:41 AM | Low Tide | -0.05 |
| 4:31 PM | High Tide | 1.79 |
| 9:40 PM | Low Tide | 1.37 |

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 6:45am | 7:25am | 1, 3, 6 |
| UA117 | 9:45am | 10:25am | 2, 4, 5, 7 |

**GUAM-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA183 | 7:05pm | 8:50pm | 2, 5 |
| UA183 | 7:25pm | 9:10pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117/183 | 6:45am | 9:10pm | 1, 3, 6 via Guam |
| UA117/183 | 9:45am | 8:50pm | 2, 5 via Guam |
| UA117/183 | 9:45am | 9:10pm | 4, 7 via Guam |

**SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3406 | 3:10PM | 6:55PM | 3 |
| TW9308 | 3:20PM | 8:00PM | 4 |
| OZ6243 | 4:00PM | 7:40PM | 6 |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA174 | 5:00am | 5:41am | 1, 3, 6 |
| UA174 | 8:00am | 8:41am | 2, 4, 5, 7 |

**MANILA (MNL)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA184 | 9:50pm | 3:55am+1 | 2, 5 |
| UA184 | 10:25pm | 4:30am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA184/174 | 9:50pm | 5:41am+1 | 2, 5 via Guam |
| UA184/174 | 10:25pm | 5:41am+1 | 7 via Guam |
| UA184/174 | 10:25pm | 8:41am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6 via Guam |

**INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3405 | 8:30AM | 2:10PM | 3 |
| OZ6233 | 9:00AM | 2:30PM | 6 |
| TW9307 | 10:00AM | 2:20PM | 4 |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❑ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❑ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❑ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❑ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

*Source: Office of the Governor*

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

**SAIPAN TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:00AM | 11:30AM | Daily |
| 1303 | 1:30PM | 2:00PM | Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri |
| 1304 | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 9:30AM | 10:00AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 12:00AM | 12:30AM | Daily |
| 3103 | 1:30PM | 3:00PM | Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri |
| 3104 | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO GUAM**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

**GUAM TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Temporarily Unavailable |

**SAIPAN TO TINIAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00 | 7:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1202 | 8:00 | 8:15 | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00 | 9:15 | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00 | 11:15 | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00 | 12:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1207 | 13:00 | 13:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily |
| 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily |
| 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily |
| 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily |
| 1212 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |

**TINIAN TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2101 | 7:30 | 7:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2102 | 8:30 | 8:45 | Daily |
| 2103 | 9:30 | 9:45 | Daily |
| 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily |
| 2105 | 11:30 | 11:45 | Daily |
| 2106 | 12:30 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2107 | 13:30 | 13:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily |
| 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily |
| 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily |
| 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily |
| 2112 | 18:30 | 18:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

# CNMI shippers cast wary eye on port congestions, logjams

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

With the CNMI about 90% dependent on supplies, including food, that are sourced from outside, news that cargo ships carrying thousands of goods in containers are piling up and are seeing backlogs in major U.S. ports is worrying news that could severely impact the availability of goods in the CNMI.

Two major distributors of consumer goods on the islands—Micronesian Brokers Inc. and CTSI Logistics Inc.—are having contrasting experience about the logjam, with Micronesian Brokers seeing some delayed shipments while CTSI is being largely spared for now since its carrier from the U.S. West Coast has its own wharf or dock.

Micronesian Brokers Inc. general manager Dennis Yoshimoto affirmed that they are indeed experiencing delayed shipments "….not only from port congestion but also due to delays in train and trucking schedules within the continental U.S."

What Micronesian Brokers Inc. tries to do is work closely with suppliers to provide forecasts months in advance "so they can schedule our production and lock in our order. There will still be logistical delays but we just need to increase the level of our warehouse buffer stock to minimize shortages and out-of-stock situations as best we can for our island community," Yoshimoto said.

Micronesian Brokers Inc. brings to the CNMI brands such as Anchor, Colgate-Palmolive, Dial, Gerber, and Frito Lay, to name a few.

"Products that we import from the Asia-Pacific region are also severely impacted by shipping delays because of port congestion. We are told this situation will continue at least into 2022," Yoshimoto added.

CTSI Logistics Inc. general manager Joven Cruz has a different take when it comes to the impact of cargo delays in the CNMI "…the carriers that we use from the U.S. West Coast to Saipan have their own wharf or dock so their vessels are not affected by the port congestion. … Products that we transport from the U.S. mainland to the CNMI have not been affected so far," he said.

Part of CTSI Logistics Inc.'s clients are D&Q, Xerox, and Mobil.

Cruz acknowledged, though, that the Asian region is also affected by cargo delivery delays. "Various Asian ports such as Hong Kong, Nansha, and other origins are experiencing port congestion and shortage of containers. These issues are causing delays in the arrival of the containers and unwanted increase in freight rates. But our vessels are consistently bringing in the containers into the CNMI," he said.

"Despite the current situation in various Asian ports, other origins and in the U.S., importers in the CNMI are still able to bring in the products that they need consistently. There doesn't seem to be a shortage of stock at the moment," he added.

The loading and distribution of consumer goods have been severely affected by the circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Outgoing delivery of goods are equally affected. A shortage in the workforce and health and safety protocols during the pandemic are adding to the burden of shippers. From transfer to operating lifts at docks, cargo delivery has proven to be less efficient and is further delayed by contact training.

# FSM Consulate in Guam temporarily closed

## » Two staff test positive for COVID-19
## » Consulate staff to work remotely, focus exclusively on repatriation efforts

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—Consul General Teresa Filepin of the Federated States of Micronesia in Guam asked for permission from the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday to close down the consulate temporarily, with consulate staff reverting to remote-only work.

Filepin

The cause for the request is due to two of the consulate's staff testing positive for COVID-19. Follow-up testing confirms that all other remaining staff are negative for the virus.

The request for temporary closure has been granted, and so the consulate is closed until further notice.

The practical effect for FSM citizens resulting from the temporary closure is that essential consular services, such as passport applications, will be indefinitely unavailable. Unless citizens are being directly engaged by the consulate for repatriation efforts, consulate staff will be unavailable to them. Conversely, all citizens who are presently engaged in pre-quarantine, or have been in direct communication with the consulate for forthcoming repatriation operations, can continue to expect the currently scheduled repatriation quarantines and flights to continue unabated. ***(PR)***


**A NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SOCIAL SERVICE**
**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

KARIDAT
Catholic Charities - Diocese of Chalan Kanoa

**(1) SHELTER WORKER - PART TIME**
**(1) SHELTER WORKER - FULL TIME**

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat main office at Sister Remedios Community Center, Chalan Kanoa.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: Complete application form, copy of diploma, resume/bio-data; current police clearance within 6 months and a copy of valid CNMI driver's license.

**NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.**
**CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021 AT 4:00PM**


John Hallens, Martha Gurumed
5005 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950
285-4307/783-3295

Pro SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In the Matter of the Petition for the Adoption of: JJHNR Minor Children
By: Martha Gurumed, John Hallens Petitioners

FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-0191

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 6, 2021 at 9:00am in Courtroom 217A before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
**Office of the Executive Director**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**CUC-RFP-21-032**
**SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) FOR POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for a turn-key design and implementation (Design, Supply and Installation) of SCADA system at its Primary Power Plant (Power Plant No.1), Lower Base, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

*The award of this project is under the Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs.*

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one package.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies** of your submission must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-21-032, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System for Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. on October 13, 2021.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. The Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 22, 2021** to manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Richard Cano, CUC's Power Generation Manager via email richard.cano@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-21**

**DESIGN, PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SOLAR PANEL SERVICES AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals from a qualified contractor to design, procure, install, commission and maintain a Ground and/or Roof-Interactive Photovoltaic System at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport as per this Statement of Work (SOW), Instruction to Proposers and associated Contract Documents, meeting all current federal, state and local government agencies' rules and regulations.

The CPA Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an invitation for bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone, or that factors other than price, such as technical expertise and/or the quality of materials, should be considered in determining the successful contractor.

**The Statement of Work (SOW) outlines the project's general requirements and may be picked up at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport beginning August 20, 2021 upon payment of $100.00 in cash, cashier's check, or credit card.**

Project approach and costs must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, may be grounds for immediate disqualification of the Offeror's proposal package.

A **Pre-proposal** Conference will be held on Friday, September 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Airport Conference Room, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, to discuss the project work in detail. Attendance to the pre-proposal conference is **mandatory**. Proposals will only be accepted from proposers who attended this pre-proposal conference. A site inspection may be performed after the pre-proposal conference. However, site inspections should be coordinated with CPA's Master Electrician, Mr. Steve Koch at telephone number 670-237-6540 or 670-285-5624, or via email at skoch@cnmiports.com.

Questions shall be submitted in writing to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, or via email to Mr. Koch at skoch@cnmiports.com by no later than 5:00 p.m., September 15, 2021. Responses to questions or requests for information will be provided to all proposers who attend the mandatory pre-proposal conference.

Proposers shall submit one (1) original and four (4) copies of the proposals, sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: ***"RFP for Solar Panel Installation and Management for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport".***

Proposals must be submitted by no later than **4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 24, 2021**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

Winning proposer shall be required to comply with 14 CFR 77.5 (c). FAA requires submittal of Alteration Form 7460-1 confirming analysis of no ocular impact to airport's ATCT cab.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: _____

# Marianas TRIP program is coming to fruition

The Marianas is the only destination to successfully establish a Travel Bubble with South Korea, and South Koreans are beginning to flock to this western Pacific archipelago in what local tourism officials say is a sign of success of the government's Tourism Resumption Investment Plan, or TRIP, program launched in July 2021.

In a single day, nearly 1,200 individuals recently made bookings to travel to the Marianas for at least a week, including five nights at a mandatory government hybrid-resort quarantine site, Kensington Saipan Hotel.

"Bookings to the Marianas from South Korea are increasing every day, a testament to the effectiveness of the Marianas' response to COVID-19 and the financial investments made under TRIP to support airlines flying again, travel agencies selling our destination, hotels providing full services, and other business reopening, too," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo. "The representatives of Korean airlines, travel agencies, and media who conducted a [familiarization] tour in July were able to see for themselves how successful our COVID-19 protocols are and the tremendous offerings the Marianas has for leisure travel. Their confidence in the Marianas is now translating into sales. We project a steady but manageable recovery of the Marianas tourism economy in the coming months, at least, and will work closely with the administration, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and COVID-19 Task Force to ensure we continue to prioritize the safety of our community and our visitors."

The key component of the TRIP program is airline incentives of $45,000 for each flight with less than 40% load factor. Of the three weekly flights from Korea that have qualified for the program, Iakopo said 18 flights over the next two months have already surpassed the incentive threshold due to high demand. Bookings have been averaging over 200 bookings per day over the last week and are projected to increase.

"We know the Marianas is all over the South Korea travel trade media and homepages as the only Travel Bubble destination. The publicity value of that is immeasurable," said Iakopo. "Due to very low community transmission of COVID-19 in the Marianas, a vaccination rate of 80% among our eligible population, and a strict quarantine protocol at our borders so we are able identify and stop cases upon entry, we are now able to capitalize on being a relatively safe destination. We will remain vigilant in our efforts to revive the tourism economy, while also closely monitoring and reacting responsibly what is happening in our source countries."

Iakopo said TRIP is short-term investment to prime the pump for long-term benefits by getting visitors safely travelling again to the Marianas.

"The Marianas will continue to benefit from TRIP by stimulating the economy through the revitalization of the tourism industry, restoration of travelers' confidence in traveling to the Marianas, and increased overall destination exposure," she said.

The Marianas is 4.5 hours flight time from Seoul, Korea. ***(MVA)***

## Marianas to celebrate World Tourism Day on Sept. 27

The Marianas will join the global travel and tourism community in celebrating the United Nations World Tourism Organization's World Tourism Day on Sept. 27, 2021.

"World Tourism Day is an opportunity for us to celebrate the important role tourism plays in the Marianas in creating jobs, generating revenue, and bringing our community together in sharing with the world what makes our islands unique and a beautiful place to live and visit," Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo. "We invite everyone to celebrate World Tourism Day."

Businesses and other groups are invited to participate in island beautification cleanups on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota from 8:30am to 9:30am. Interested groups may contact the MVA for coordination of cleanup locations and trash pickup. The MVA will also provide trash bags, gloves, and water.

The World Tourism Day Sunset Fun Run will be held at 6pm on Saipan. It will begin at Minachom Atdao pavilion at Kilili Beach Park, follow the Saipan Beach Road Pathway to Quartermaster Road and back—a 5K route. In support of Cultural Heritage Month and recognizing the significance of indigenous culture to tourism, participants are encouraged to wear Chamorro and Carolinian attire. Registration will open at 5pm and the first 100 individuals on site will receive a free World Tourism Day T-shirt. Registration is free. Cash prizes will be awarded for Men and Women's Divisions: $300 for first place, $200 for second place, and $100 for third place. Cash prizes and in-kind prizes for the Chamorro and Carolinian attire include $100 for first place, $75 for second place, and $50 for third place. On Tinian, the run will start at 5:30am at Taga Beach and proceed along Broadway to the Tinian International Airport intersection and back. On Rota, the run will start at 5:30pm at East Harbor and proceed to Kokomo and back.

In collaboration with the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History & Culture, CNMI Museum Day will highlight the importance of promoting history for tourism by offering free tours at the museum. High school Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically clubs will be hosted from 9am to 11am. Tourism partners may avail of free tours from 11am to 1pm. The general public can visit the museum from 1pm to 5pm. COVID-19 protocols, including social distancing, will be observed. ***(MVA)***

## Nakoa, Hildebrandt join Insular Affairs team

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs is pleased to acknowledge that two new political appointees have joined the leadership team for the Office of Insular Affairs. The Biden-Harris administration has appointed Keone Nakoa of Hawaii as the deputy assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs and Betsy Hildebrandt of Virginia as the new senior advisor for insular areas to the assistant secretary.

"The territories are an integral part of the fabric of America, and the freely associated states, while independent countries, are uniquely interwoven with the United States in terms of a shared history, ongoing partnership, and a shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific," said Nakoa. "I look forward to working with the OIA team and leadership from the insular areas to fulfill our trust and insular responsibilities through efforts to strengthen economic and health capacities in the territories, fulfill Compact of Free Association obligations, and address climate resilience, conservation, and clean energy deployment."

"I am honored to join the Office of Insular Affairs, which has an important role to play in facilitating and upholding the federal government's interrelationship with each of the insular areas," said Hildebrandt. "The Biden-Harris administration has made clear its priorities to strengthen insular economies through strategic investments in environmental justice activities, clean energy deployment, and infrastructure improvement, while also restoring trust with territorial communities and ensuring sovereignty means something in supporting and working with the freely associated states."

Nakoa joins Interior from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs where he worked with Congress and federal agencies as the Washington, D.C. bureau chief. Keone previously served as speechwriter for the late senator Daniel Akaka, clerk for the Chief Judge of the Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals, and as a lawyer at a private firm in Honolulu. He holds J.D. and MBA degrees from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa and a bachelor's degree in biological anthropology from Harvard University. Born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, he is part Native Hawaiian and lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Stephanie.

Hildebrandt returns to the Interior Department after serving in a variety of roles between 2009 and 2020 as both a political appointee and a career employee in the Office of the Secretary, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. Her contributions have primarily focused on management and strategic communications. In her more than 30-year career, Betsy has worked on Capitol Hill and the private and non-profit sectors. Hildebrandt and her husband, Kevin Varney, have two children. ***(PR)***


**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**
**STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Caller Box 10007 | Saipan, MP 96950 | Tel: (670) 664-1708 | Fax: (670) 664-1710 | Email: cnmiswdb@dol.gov.mp
VISION: *"To promote a workforce development system that meets the need of businesses, job seekers and workers to support a strong and vibrant economy in the CNMI."*

**Regular General Membership Meeting**
**Friday, September 17, 2021 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm**
**Venue: Hyatt HR Training Room and Virtual***

*Note: Due to Covid-19 safety measures, in-person attendance is limited to members of the State Workforce Development Board. Virtual attendance is available to members of the public interested in attending or making public comments. Please email cnmiswdb@dol.gov.mp for the link prior to the meeting. You must have access to a computer to participate.

**AGENDA**

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of September 17, 2021
IV. Review and Adoption of April 08, 2021 General Membership Meeting Minutes
V. Public Comments
VI. Reports
a. Executive Committee
b. Planning, Assessment, Evaluation, and Research Committee
c. Program Committee
d. Policies and Procedure Committee
e. Core Programs
VII. Old Business
a. Business Needs Assessment Survey
VIII. New Business
a. Eligible Training Provider Application
1. Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI)
IX. Executive Session
X. Announcements
XI. Next Meeting
XII. Adjournment

Approved by:
/s/
Josephine DLG. Mesta
Chair

**MISSION:** *"To Empower, integrate, implement, and innovate the workforce needs of the CNMI."*

This advertisement is paid in full through a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration.



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**
**ITB NO.: DPW/SWMD21-ITB-037**

**SUBMISSION DATE: October 07, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"Supply, and Delivery of Roll-Off Trash Bins for the Division of Solid Waste Management, Saipan"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

The project package will be available on or after **September 08, 2021** at the Department of Public Works, 2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 214 Saipan.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **September 24, 2021,** 9:00 a.m. local time at the DPW Solid Waste Management Division, 2nd Floor, Transfer Station Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 30, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**
**SECRETARY, DPW**

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**
**Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services**



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**
**RFP NO.: DPW21-RFP-032**

**SUBMISSION DATE: October 08, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"Department of Public Works Planning Road Condition and Flood Hazard Mapping Project, Saipan"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

The project package will be available on or after **September 08, 2021** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-Proposal Conference** for this project on **September 24, 2021**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 30, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

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**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**
**SECRETARY, DPW**

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**
**Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services**

**/S/ VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ**
**Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR)**

# World

## Report: Climate change could see 200 million move by 2050

**BARCELONA, Spain** (AP)—Climate change could push more than 200 million people to leave their homes in the next three decades and create migration hot spots unless urgent action is taken to reduce global emissions and bridge the development gap, a World Bank report has found.

The second part of the Groundswell report published Monday examined how the impacts of slow-onset climate change such as water scarcity, decreasing crop productivity and rising sea levels could lead to millions of what it describes as "climate migrants" by 2050 under three different scenarios with varying degrees of climate action and development.

Under the most pessimistic scenario, with a high level of emissions and unequal development, the report forecasts up to 216 million people moving within their own countries across the six regions analyzed. Those regions are Latin America; North Africa; Sub-Saharan Africa; Eastern Europe and Central Asia; South Asia; and East Asia and the Pacific.

In the most climate-friendly scenario, with a low level of emissions and inclusive, sustainable development, the world could still see 44 million people being forced to leave their homes.

The findings "reaffirm the potency of climate to induce migration within countries," said Viviane Wei Chen Clement, a senior climate change specialist at the World Bank and one of the report's authors.

The report didn't look at the short-term impacts of climate change, such as the effects of extreme weather events, and did not look at climate migration across borders.

In the worst-case scenario, Sub-Saharan Africa—the most vulnerable region due to desertification, fragile coastlines and the population's dependence on agriculture—would see the most migrants, with up to 86 million people moving within national borders.

North Africa, however, is predicted to have the largest proportion of climate migrants, with 19 million people moving, equivalent to roughly 9% of its population, due mainly to increased water scarcity in northeastern Tunisia, northwestern Algeria, western and southern Morocco, and the central Atlas foothills, the report said.

In South Asia, Bangladesh is particularly affected by flooding and crop failures, accounting for almost half of the predicted climate migrants, with 19.9 million people, including an increasing number of women, moving by 2050 under the pessimistic scenario.

In this file photo taken Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020, a Samburu boy uses a wooden stick to try to swat a swarm of desert locusts filling the air, as he herds his camel near the village of Sissia, in Samburu county, Kenya. AP

"This is our humanitarian reality right now and we are concerned this is going to be even worse, where vulnerability is more acute," said Prof. Maarten van Aalst, director of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, who wasn't involved with the report.

Many scientists say the world is no longer on track to the worst-case scenario for emissions. But even under a more moderate scenario, van Aalst said many impacts are now occurring faster than previously expected, "including the extremes we are already experiencing, as well as potential implications for migration and displacement."

While climate change's influence on migration is not new, it is often part of a combination of factors pushing people to move, and acts as a threat multiplier. People affected by conflicts and inequality are also more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as they have limited means to adapt.

"Globally we know that three out of four people that move stay within countries," said Dr. Kanta Kumari Rigaud, a lead environmental specialist at the World Bank and co-author of the report.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Suu Kyi illness causes Myanmar court to postpone her hearing

**BANGKOK** (AP)—Myanmar's detained former leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, was unable to attend a scheduled court hearing Monday because she felt ill, her lawyers said. Suu Kyi is being tried in the capital Naypyitaw on charges of sedition—defined as spreading information that could cause public alarm or unrest—as well as two counts of flouting COVID-19 pandemic restrictions during the 2020 election campaign, illegally importing walkie-talkies that were for her bodyguards' use and the unlicensed use of the radios. She was detained on Feb. 1 when the army seized power from her elected government. One of Suu Kyi's lawyers, Min Min Soe, told The Associated Press the 76-year-old former leader felt sick Monday on the drive to the court from the secret location where she's being held by the ruling military government. Her team requested her hearing be postponed, and she was allowed to return to her living quarters.

### Vietnam speeds up Hanoi vaccine drive; 1M jabs over weekend

**HANOI, Vietnam** (AP)—Vietnam is speeding up its vaccination program in an effort to loosen coronavirus lockdown restrictions in major cities by the end of the month, the government said Monday. Health workers administered vaccines throughout the night in the capital, Hanoi, which has been under lockdown since July. More than a million vaccine shots were given over the weekend in Hanoi, out of around 5.5 million administered there since vaccinations started in March, the Health Ministry said. "We have to speed up the vaccination program so we can make a plan to reopen the city," Hanoi mayor Chu Ngoc Anh said Sunday. More than half of the country's 98 million population is also under lockdown.

### Indonesia arrests key leader in al-Qaida linked group

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—Indonesia's elite counterterrorism squad has arrested a convicted militant and suspected leader of an al-Qaida-linked group that has been blamed for a string of past bombings in the country, Indonesia police said Monday. Abu Rusdan was seized late Friday in Bekasi near the capital of Jakarta, along with three other suspected members of Jemaah Islamiyah, police spokesman Ahmad Ramadhan said. "He is currently known to be active among the unlawful Jemaah Islamiyah network's leadership," Ramadhan told the Associated Press. Indonesian authorities consider Rusdan to be a key figure in the Jemaah Islamiyah, which the U.S. has designated a terrorist group. The shadowy Southeast Asian network is widely blamed for attacks in the Philippines and Indonesia—including the 2002 bombings in the Indonesian resort island of Bali that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists.

### Over 100 world leaders to attend UN gathering in person

**UNITED NATIONS** (AP)—More than 100 heads of state and government are planning to attend the U.N. General Assembly's annual gathering of world leaders in person next week, including U.S. President Joe Biden, King Abdullah II of Jordan and the presidents of Brazil and Venezuela, according to the latest speakers list. The prime ministers of Japan, India and the United Kingdom will also be at U.N. headquarters to deliver their country's speech to the 193-member assembly, along with Israel's new Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. And 23 ministers are slated to speak in person as well, according to the list obtained Monday by The Associated Press. Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the U.N.'s members decided to make this year's gathering hybrid, offering nations the possibility of sending leaders to New York in person or making prerecorded statements to be shown in the assembly chamber, as virtually all countries did last year.

### Out West, Biden points to wildfires to push for big rebuild

**MATHER, Calif.** (AP)—President Joe Biden on Monday used his first Western swing in office to hold out the wildfires burning across the region as an argument for his $3.5 trillion rebuilding plans, calling year-round fires and other extreme weather a climate change reality the nation can no longer ignore. "We can't ignore the reality that these wildfires are being supercharged by climate change," Biden said, noting that catastrophic weather doesn't strike based on partisan ideology. "It isn't about red or blue states. It's about fires. Just fires." With stops in Idaho and California, Biden sought to boost support for his big rebuilding plans, saying every dollar spent on "resilience" would save $6 in future costs. And he said the rebuilding must go beyond simply restoring damaged systems and instead ensure communities can withstand such crises.


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**CUC-RFP-21-036**

**Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $25.00 for one package.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies** of your submission must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-21-036, Office Space Rental for CUC's Administrative Functions and Operations"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. on October 15, 2021.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. The Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 23, 2021** to Manny Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address, manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John C. Mafnas, Contracts Officer at john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

# Good Housekeeping

## Tips for fresh fall color combinations

By CATHY HOBBS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

When you think of fall colors, brown, orange, and yellow surely come to mind. But what are the best ways to use and pair these colors?

These days, color combinations for fall can be fresh, creative and modern. Some fall colors you may not expect? Charcoal gray and green top the list.

Curious about some fresh color fall combinations? Here are some top tips.

1. Consider green. Green is fresh and fun for fall and can be paired with many other colors such as chocolate brown, charcoal gray and black.

2. Look for different tints, tones and shades of the same color. This is perfect for monochromatic color schemes.

3. Look for colors that have yellow or orange undertones such as turquoise.

4. Use warm colors such as cream or mushroom. These colors pair well with deep foundation colors such as black and brown.

5. Incorporate traditional fall colors such as yellow in unexpected ways. Mustard yellow and chartreuse provide a creative, modern spin on use of yellow in a space.

6. Use brass finishes as a way to bring yellow and yellow tones into a space.

7. Bring orange into spaces where you want to add a bright, friendly warm color. Orange can be toned down if needed by using foundation colors such as cream, black or brown.

8. Consider using indigo as a substitute for black if you're looking for a subtler dark, foundation color.

9. Consider pairing complementary fall colors together such as yellow with orange.

10. Use gray as a pairing with brighter fall colors for a more modern feel.

Traditional fall orange is paired with cream in this children's bedroom.

SCOTT GABRIEL MORRIS/HANDOUT/TNS

## Add glamour with gold

By CATHY HOBBS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Looking to add instant glam to a space? Consider adding a dash of gold. A dominant finish in the '80s, gold remains more popular than ever. Often considered to be more luxurious than silver, the glitter of gold can help add luster to nearly any room of the home. Here are some overall do's and don'ts.

**DO'S**

1. Do consider using gold as a pop or accent.

2. Do use gold in social areas where you want to add an element of luxury such as a living room.

3. Do consider mixing different shades of gold in a single vignette or space.

4. Do be afraid to mix different finishes, such as nickel with brass.

5. Do use pops of gold in various ways throughout a room to create a sense of cohesiveness.

**DON'T's**

1. Don't overdo it. Often, less is more. You don't want to overload a space for risk of it looking "overdone" or gaudy.

2. Don't overlook the opportunity to pair gold with strong colors that pair well with gold such as black, navy, brown and even green.

3. Don't use tones of gold that are overly bright or brassy.

4. Don't ignore opportunities to use gold in creative ways such as light fixtures, artwork and accessories.

5. Don't be afraid to add touches of gold in whimsical ways such as in a child's playroom or family room.

## And speaking of contractors…

By ALAN J. HEAVENS
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Thousands of articles have been written about how to hire a contractor. I've written several hundred myself, and two books, besides.

Just type "How to hire a contractor" into Google, and voila! much advice appears.

The first non-ad to come up on my list was "This Old House," followed by U.S. News, the Federal Trade Commission, Angie's List ... well, that's enough, because I cannot imagine any would steer me in the wrong direction.

TV carpenter Norm Abram told me on a 1999 visit to The New Yankee Workshop set that he was sent hundreds of tools to try out, and that most performed the same as tools on his workbench.

A hammer is still a hammer, even if it runs on a 9-volt battery.

What you have read so far is my excuse for not sharing contractor-hiring tips from a survey by Invoice2go, which is an invoice app. I will share a few findings about consumers' attitudes toward contractors, however.

Only 6 percent of homeowners indicated that they trusted a bigger company more than a smaller one.

Ninety-three percent indicated they would consider hiring a freelancer.

The number one online place homeowners look for service providers is Angie's List (24 percent), followed by Facebook (21 percent). The other places, in no particular order, were Yelp, Thumbtack, TaskRabbit, HomeAdvisor, and NextDoor.

The top behavior that positively reflects credibility of a home-renovation service provider is "cleaning up after a job," at 85 percent.

As I said, Google it.

**SUMMER, TOO**

Stories about carbon monoxide-related deaths abound in warmer weather, especially after storm-related power outages.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each year more than 400 Americans die from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning; more than 20,000 visit emergency rooms, and more than 4,000 are hospitalized as a result.

If you have a gasoline-powered generator, don't run it in an enclosed area such as a porch or a garage, inside the house, or near windows. And make sure your carbon monoxide detectors are working.

**KITCHEN MAGIC**

## Country-Fair Cheesecake

1 1/2 cups chocolate-cookie crumbs

5 tablespoons margarine or butter, melted

Sugar

4 8-ounce packages cream cheese, softened

4 large eggs

4 1-ounce squares semi-sweet chocolate, melted

1. Preheat oven to 325 F. In 9-by-2 1/2-inch springform pan, with hand, mix chocolate-cookie crumbs, melted margarine or butter and 2 tablespoons sugar. Press mixture onto bottom of pan.

2. In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat cream cheese until smooth; slowly beat in 1 1/4 cups sugar, scraping bowl often with rubber spatula. Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition, just until blended.

3. Pour half the batter into a medium bowl; stir in melted chocolate until blended. Remove scant 1/4 cup chocolate batter and reserve. Pour remaining chocolate batter over crust. Carefully spoon white batter over chocolate batter; gently smooth top.

4. Spoon reserved 1/4 cup chocolate batter into small heavyweight plastic bag; cut small opening in corner of bag. Pipe chocolate batter on top of white batter in parallel lines 3/4 inch apart. Draw toothpick or tip of knife across lines at 3/4-inch intervals, alternating first in one direction and then the other.

5. Bake cheesecake 55 minutes until just beginning to brown around edge (center may not seem set); cool in pan on wire rack. Cover and refrigerate cheesecake at least 4 hours or until well-chilled.

6. To serve, dip metal spatula in hot water to gently loosen edge of cheesecake from pan; carefully remove side of springform pan. Makes 16 servings.

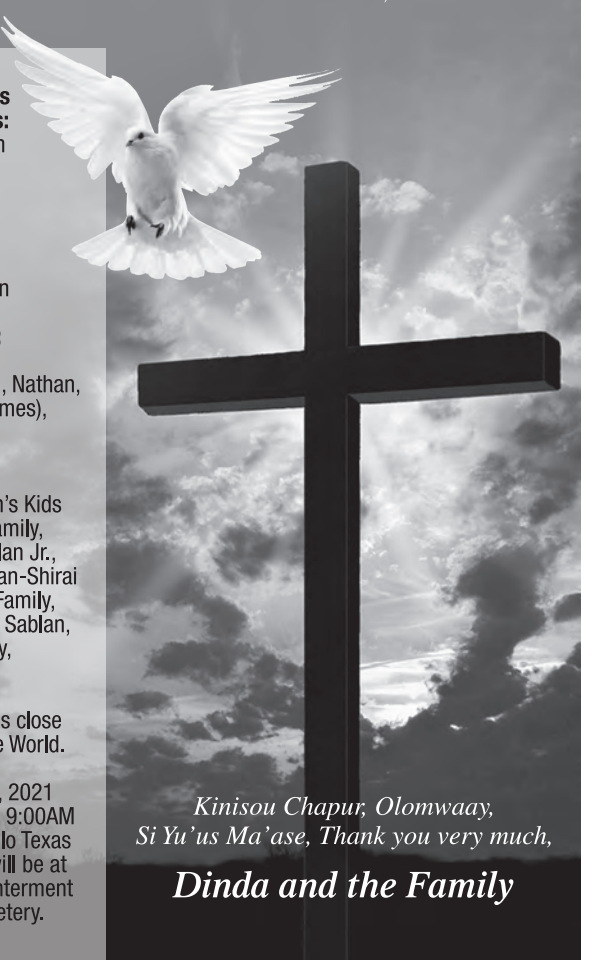
**Each serving: About 400 calories, 29g fat, 121mg cholesterol, 305mg sodium.* ***(c) 2021 Hearst Communications, Inc.***


LOVED WITH A LOVE BEYOND TELLING,
MISSED WITH A GRIEF BEYOND ALL TEARS.

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8-9)*

†JAMES G. SABLAN

SUNRISE: MAY 26, 1971 SUNSET: SEPTEMBER 01, 2021



**Was called by his Creator to his Eternal Rest to join his parents:**
†Gregorio "Eko" & †Mary Sablan

**His Brothers:** †Serphin Single, † Stan "Eipap" Sablan & †Jimmy "Big Tuna" Sablan

**His Sister:** †Lucy "Lucita" Sablan

**Forever Loved and Missed by:**

His Wife, Dinda and their Children: Jamal, Nathan, Dianne, Dierra (Frankie), Natasha (James), and granddaughter (Solen)

**His Brothers and Sisters:**
†Serphin Single's Family, †Stan Sablan's Kids and grandkids, Rosendo Sablan & Family, †Jimmy Sablan's daughter, Greg Sablan Jr., Domaita Sablan & Family, Presenta Sablan-Shirai & Family, Caroline Sablan-Bernard & Family, Grace Sablan-Choban & Family, Jacoba Sablan, Merilyn Innocenti-Mailur & Family, and Memorina Sablan.

He is additionally survived by numerous close relatives, family and friends all over the World.

Last respect will be on September 16, 2021 to September 17, 2021 from 3:00PM to 9:00AM (Bella) at the Sablan residence; Falughulo Texas Rd., Susupe. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 AM at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

*Kinisou Chapur, Olomwaay,*
*Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank you very much,*

***Dinda and the Family***

# Life & Style

## Game show 'The Price Is Right' celebrates its 50th season

**NEW YORK** (AP)—If you can remember the price of a 30-ounce jar of mayonnaise, what an Armani purse goes for and how much to pay for an iPhone 12, there's really only one place to shine—"The Price Is Right."

The longest-running game show in television history is celebrating its 50th season this month and offering viewers a chance to, as always, "come on down" to win by guessing the correct retail price for various items.

Some rival game shows reward their contestants for esoteric knowledge, others physicality. With some shows, contestants need luck, a friend to phone, strategy or an ability to cook or sing. On "The Price Is Right," the value of things is itself valued.

"This show is about how much a can of creamed corn is. That's what's great about it. Because whether you are just scraping by or you're Martha Stewart, you probably bought a can of cream corn," says George Gray, the show's announcer since 2011.

"The Price Is Right" is a remarkably sturdy thing, surviving the retirement of beloved host Bob Barker in 2007, a turnover in models—sometimes acrimoniously—the introduction of male models in 2012 and even out-witting COVID-19.

It has subtlety evolved, with sturdy grandfather clocks as prizes replaced by electronic gadgets. High-definition TV monitors make exotic trips in the showcases pop these days, and the packages themselves have become more experiential, with scuba gear or golf clubs added to packages to Belize or Scotland, respectively.

"We've really been able to keep up with the trend of new prizes and what people want today. But it's still the same game show—you still need to know the price of that laptop or that iPhone," says Rachel Reynolds, a model from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who joined the show in 2003.

If there's one word to describe the typical contestant, it's ebullient. When their name is called, there's usually a squeal of excitement and a smiling rush-hop to the stage, jumping up and down with barely-contained glee.

They are mostly regular people, nursing aides or home renovators or book store managers. "Good luck, man," current host Drew Carey will say. Or, "Let's see those great prizes back there, Heather." Contestants are overjoyed to be there. One recently wore a partially bedazzled T-shirt that said: "Drew, Let's party like it's $19.99."

Potential contestants are briefly interviewed at the Los Angeles studio, with producers looking for personal stories, along with enthusiasm. The show's 300 audience members have about 20 seconds each to make an impression.

The dozens of games—from Double Prices to Five Price Tags and Plinko—test the receipt-minded prices of things like a 12-ounce tin of corned beef, a pair of stainless steel patio heaters and a six-night stay in Philadelphia with a cheesesteak tour. The show is so kind that even contestants who make it on stage but don't get to play a pricing game leave with a $300 consolation prize.

Carey, who had been host of "Whose Line Is it Anyway?" and did some fill-in hosting in late night TV, was warned that "The Price Is Right" was more complicated than he anticipated. It requires keeping track of time, engaging with contestants and the camera, guiding everyone through the games and knowing what the contestants, models and crowd are doing at all times.

He compares it to his days waiting tables—knowing when food was coming out, checking who needed a refill, when the check was needed. "It's kind of the same skill set for 'The Price Is Right,'" he says. "There's just a lot going on all the time."

To celebrate its milestone, the show this week will feature a game each day where contestants can win up to $1 million. A two-hour primetime special on Sept. 30 will include a look back at the biggest winners, never before seen outtakes and a salute to Barker.

The Price is Right show host, comedian Drew Carey, left, appears with longtime former host Bob Barker at the CBS Studio Center in Los Angeles on March 25, 2009. AP PHOTO/DAMIAN DOVARGANE

## 'Jeopardy!' begins season with already-ousted Richards

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The very brief Mike Richards era on "Jeopardy!" began on Monday as the beleaguered game show dealt with the embarrassment of opening its 38th season with a host that its fans already know is toast.

Richards stepped down as Alex Trebek's replacement on Aug. 20, and was ousted as the show's executive producer a week and a half later, after it was discovered podcasts he had made in 2013 and 2014 contained demeaning remarks about women and minorities.

His selection as host by Sony Pictures Television after a lengthy run of tryouts by other personalities was already unpopular with fans before the old podcasts surfaced.

Richards

His ouster came after he had completed a week's worth of taping shows for the new season, and Sony couldn't redo them without affecting the game's integrity.

Richards was introduced as host Monday by a downcast-sounding announcer, Johnny Gilbert. Not a word was mentioned of his status as Trebek's replacement; if it had been originally, it was cut out.

Before he was introduced, it was noted that Trebek's widow and children had been on hand for the stage's dedication to its old host, who died of cancer last October.

"For the first time on the Alex Trebek stage, let's play 'Jeopardy!," Richards said.

In keeping with Trebek's tradition—he considered the game and its players the star—Richards generally took a backseat to the action.

The show is in the midst of an historic run by Matt Amodio, a Ph.D student from New Haven, Connecticut. He won his 19th straight game on Monday, increasing his total winnings to $642,601, behind only Ken Jennings and James Holzhauer.

Amodio made quick work of competitors Amde Mengistu of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Gabbie Kim, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, winning $67,800 on Monday.

"Jeopardy!" next week will bring actress Mayim Bialik back as guest host before beginning another series of tryouts for Trebek's permanent replacement.

The Richards era will end after five shows. Trebek, who began in 1984, totaled more than 8,200.

## Pandemic isolation leaves man's social skills 'rusty'

**DEAR ABBY**: I am a guy who is 27. I have always been somewhat shy and reserved, but I do like people and I like mixing. After more than a year of being "locked down" during the COVID-19 pandemic, although I was fine being housebound, I started missing human contact.

Social opportunities are opening up for me now, and though I was never great in conversations at parties, my "time away" has made me rusty. I believe you have written some pointers for being better in social situations. Can you give me a quick refresher course? Thanks, Abby!

READY TO BE BACK OUT THERE

**DEAR READY: I'm happy to try. The first thing to understand is that social adeptness is a skill. No one is born with it. It has to be learned. With practice, it can be "polished" until it becomes second nature.**

**Part of being social is showing an interest in other people. Encourage them to share their interests and opinions. Ask them to tell you about themselves and what they think. Ask their opinions and, when they tell you, be a good listener. Cultivate your own interests so you will have something to share with them.**

**I publish a booklet (which is probably what you were alluding to in your letter) titled, "How to be Popular" that contains many useful tips for polishing social skills. It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus a check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds), to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. It is meant for people of all ages and covers a variety of situations. (If parents, teachers and clergy know someone who needs help in this regard, it might make an inexpensive gift that could change the course of a person's life.)**

**When you receive it, don't read it just once. Keep it handy for reference because it contains many helpful suggestions about how to be the kind of individual others find interesting and attractive. The keys to being socially successful are: Be kind. Be honest. Be tactful. Offer a compliment if you think it is deserved. And if you become anxious, remember: People can think of only one thing at a time. Forget about yourself and concentrate on the OTHER person. Try it and you'll find it works like a charm.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: Lately my best friend has been assuming the role of the masculine lesbian in our duo. I'm tired of making cute outfits, and I want a turn to dress as the male. How do I subtly hint that we need a role switch-up?

CURIOUS & CONFUSED IN CONNECTICUT

### DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

**DEAR CURIOUS & CONFUSED: Hint? Why hint? Choose a time when you are both calm and relaxed and tell her what you need. You have a right to do that, and if she cares about you, she should be willing to accommodate you.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**TO MY READERS: Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement begins at sundown. During this 24-hour period, observant Jewish people fast, engage in reflection and prayer, and formally repent for any sin that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you who observe—may your fast be a meaningful one.**

*If you have editorial questions, please contact Clint Hooker, chooker@amuniversal.com.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

OK... EVERYONE IN THE WATER!
I REFUSE! I'M FREEZING ALREADY!
CALVIN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT A "RAT TAIL" IS?
NO.
IT'S WHEN YOU SOAK A TOWEL AND TWIST IT UP INTO A WHIP. IT STINGS LIKE CRAZY AND IS MUCH WORSE THAN BEING COLD. GET MY DRIFT?
I ALWAYS THOUGHT LIFE-GUARDS WERE JUST TAUGHT HOW TO RESUSCITATE PEOPLE AND THINGS LIKE THAT.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

KATY'S IN A GLOOMY POET PHASE.
WHY?
'CAUSE IT'S SEPTEMBER. SUMMER'S OVER.
BUT IT'S 72 DEGREES OUT TODAY. IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
YEAH. TRY TELLING HER THAT.
HAS ANYONE SEEN MY BROODING SHAWL?

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I'M STARTING TO THINK I SHOULDN'T HAVE JUST CALLED IN SICK.
GUILTY CONSCIENCE?
NO, I'M BEGINNING TO ACTUALLY FEEL FEVERISH AND MAY HAVE TO GO LIE IN BED.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Owned
4 Lingerie item, for short
8 iPhone downloads
12 Outback bird
13 "Exodus" author
14 Painter Joan
15 Skier Tommy
16 Sushi bar quaffs
18 Kebab accompaniment
20 Aachen article
21 Editing mark
24 Musical symbols
28 Goes crazy
32 Memory method
33 Sashimi fish
34 "The Crucible" setting
36 Snitch
37 Courage
39 Full of
41 Bo Peep's charges
43 Doc's "Now!"
44 Table support
46 "Bye Bye Bye" band
50 Actual
55 Vacuum's lack
56 Leer at
57 Pyramid part
58 Nipper's co.
59 Afrikaner
60 Incite
61 Cotillion celeb

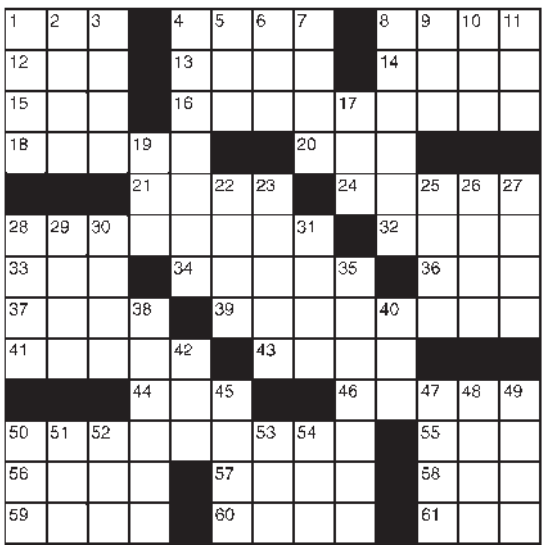
**DOWN**

1 Rope fiber
2 Mine, to Marcel
3 Face-off
4 Teens' deadlines
5 Onassis nickname
6 Amp plug-in
7 "Got it"
8 C major relative
9 Brooch
10 Opposite of "post-"
11 "Mayday!"
17 Victory
19 Billboards
22 Tale teller
23 Designer Perry
25 Actress Spelling
26 Coup d'—
27 Third son
28 Alger's "before"
29 "Nope!"
30 Evening, in an ad
31 Skilled
35 Gad about
38 eBay user
40 Scale amts.
42 Church seat
45 Oodles
47 Three feet
48 Pleasing
49 Beach crawler
50 Filch
51 Conceit
52 Pub pint
53 Knock
54 Baton Rouge sch.

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | O | R | K | | R | A | P | T | | L | A | P | |
| T | U | B | A | | A | G | A | R | | I | L | E | |
| D | R | I | V | E | T | H | R | U | | N | B | C | |
| | | | N | A | S | A | | S | N | E | A | K | |
| I | N | F | E | R | | | | S | T | U | D | | |
| N | O | O | R | | C | H | A | M | B | R | A | Y | |
| C | O | O | | S | L | | M | E | | I | S | O | |
| A | B | D | I | C | A | T | E | | E | V | E | N | |
| | | D | R | O | P | | | N | I | E | C | E | |
| M | O | R | A | L | | D | R | A | G | | | | |
| O | V | I | | D | R | | V | E | H | O | M | E | |
| C | E | V | | E | I | N | E | | T | R | E | O | |
| E | R | E | | D | O | C | R | | Y | A | W | N | |

Yesterday's answer 9-15



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Prince Harry, 37; Crystal Coney, 50; Barry Shabaka Henley, 67; Tommy Lee Jones, 75.

**Happy Birthday:** Start a new era by putting yourself at the forefront. Don't wait to see what others are going to do. Focus on what you want, what's important to you and how you plan to reach your goal. Step outside your comfort zone, feed your imagination and turn your dream into a reality. Embrace whatever challenges you physically and stimulates you mentally. Your numbers are 5, 13, 24, 32, 35, 41, 47.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Do your part, but don't make waves. An emotional incident is best kept under wraps until you have thought matters through explicitly. Acting on an assumption will make you look bad. Take a deep breath and focus on what you can accomplish. ✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Be passionate about your pursuits, and follow through. Refuse to let anyone or anything stand between you and your goal. Let your experience shine through, and you will open doors using your strengths, knowledge and insight to guide you. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Size up situations, and be honest about what you think and want. Take advantage of an opportunity to get ahead, and don't look back. Thinking forward will help you get ahead. A networking event will reap the rewards. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Emotional matters will escalate if you let someone get under your skin. Be blunt about what you want, and move toward the people and pastimes that bring you joy. Don't give in to keep the peace. Pick the peaceful path. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Align yourself with like-minded people to avoid being railroaded by someone pushing you to participate in something that isn't in your best interest. It's up to you to pursue what makes you happy and protect your interests from users and abusers. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You are onto something. Don't give up or let someone sidetrack you when exploring what interests you will build confidence and help you gain the momentum you require to expand your interests. Recognize that change begins with you. ✪✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Patience will help you avoid a blowout. Listen carefully, don't act in haste and consider the consequence of sharing personal information or engaging in gossip. Look for the positive in every situation you face, and you'll get good results. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Help older relatives or colleagues. You'll gain access to valuable information that can help you bring about positive change. You'll be attracted to unique situations, opportunities and people who do things differently. Romance and self-improvement will enhance your life. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll gain perspective if you observe what's going on around you. Gather information, sign up for courses, and keep up with technology and what's new and exciting in your field. Don't trust hearsay. Gather facts and position yourself for success. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Emotions will surface if you can't find common ground with someone you live or work alongside. Focus on getting things done, not anger or criticizing what others do. An open mind, kind gesture and positive attitude will fetch better results. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep close tabs on your cash, documents and anything else of importance. Avoid situations that can lead to health risks or problems with an authority figure. Look for a safe way to invest in something you want to pursue. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A chance meeting or reminder will lead to an exciting opportunity that can change the way you live and do things. A partnership will lead to a spirited adventure. Protect against poor health and situations that include risk factors. ✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are assertive, liberal and inventive. You are standoffish and cool.

*✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 7 | 8 | | 3 | | | | |
| 3 | | | 2 | 9 | | | | |
| | | | 4 | 7 | | 1 | | |
| | | | 9 | 1 | | 7 | | |
| | | 1 | | 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | |
| | 2 | | | | | 4 | | |
| 2 | | | | | | 6 | | |
| 1 | | | | | | 3 | | |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | | | 2 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| 3 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| 2 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| 9 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| 5 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 3 |
| 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**LET'S BE NIMBLE** **Solution: 7 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | E | D | G | N | I | R | R | I | T | S | Q | S | U |
| H | C | U | X | E | A | D | E | G | N | I | W | V | U | A |
| A | L | C | S | P | L | I | E | E | I | Y | C | I | O | B |
| N | E | T | O | Y | R | L | T | V | R | A | S | V | I | L |
| D | V | L | H | M | K | E | I | P | I | C | U | A | T | E |
| A | E | T | I | G | P | S | S | K | T | T | O | C | I | L |
| T | R | M | R | M | I | L | I | S | S | I | R | I | D | P |
| U | G | E | O | E | B | R | I | R | A | V | E | O | E | P |
| N | N | C | A | V | P | E | P | S | F | E | T | U | P | U |
| E | O | U | O | D | E | R | R | S | H | K | X | S | X | S |
| D | L | R | E | O | Y | I | A | L | Ⓚ | Ⓔ | Ⓔ | Ⓝ | E | W |
| I | D | T | S | O | L | V | T | H | A | N | D | Y | H | I |
| N | A | Y | L | E | V | I | L | T | S | U | R | H | T | F |
| L | E | A | S | Y | M | O | V | I | N | G | W | A | I | T |
| W | H | I | Z | A | V | I | D | E | N | R | A | E | L | Y |

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Able, Accomplished, Active, A Hand At, Avid, Busy, Clever, Competent, Cool, Curt, Dexterous, Easy-moving, Expeditious, Express, Fast, Frisky, Gait, Handy, Headlong, Keen, Late, Learned, Limber, Lithe, Lively, Lost, Move It, Pert, Ready, Savvy, Sharp, Skilled, Sportive, Spright, Spry, Stirring, Supple, Swift, Thrust, Tuned In, Vivacious, Wait, Whiz, Winged

**Yesterday's Answer: Breakaway**

**Treasuries 24 through 41** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

# Kershaw strikes out 5 in return, Dodgers beat D-backs 5-1

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)— Clayton Kershaw struck out five in his first start since July 3 and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 5-1 on Monday night for their seventh straight home win.

Activated from the injured list earlier in the day, Kershaw had missed 57 games with elbow inflammation.

The 33-year-old left-hander gave up four hits, walked one and didn't figure in the decision after throwing 50 pitches over 4 1/3 innings. Kershaw reached on an infield single in the second and sacrificed in the fourth.

Phil Bickford (4-2) got the win with one inning of scoreless relief.

With the second-place Dodgers chasing NL West-leading San Francisco, Kershaw's return gives them another front-line starter to join Walker Buehler, Max Scherzer and Julio Urías, all of whom are strong Cy Young Award contenders.

Kershaw was throwing his fastball about 91 mph before going on the IL. He touched 90 a few times in the first when he needed 20 pitches to get out of the inning. He retired the side in the third, his only clean inning.

The Dodgers took a 3-1 lead in the first on Corey Seager's RBI single and Justin Turner's two-run double into the left-field corner. Turner added a solo homer, his 25th, in the eighth.

Austin Barnes doubled into the left-field corner in the sixth, extending the lead to 4-1.

Arizona's lone run came on Josh Rojas' RBI single in the first.

Diamondbacks starter Zac Gallen (2-10) gave up four runs and eight hits in 5 1/3 innings. He struck out four and walked three.

Making his fourth career start in left field, Gavin Lux cut in front of center fielder Cody Bellinger to catch a deep fly from Arizona's Carson Kelly in the third. Bellinger got smacked in the face by Lux's glove as they nearly collided on the warning track. Christian Walker came up next and hit another fly. Bellinger twice waved his glove in Lux's direction to keep him away and made the catch to end the inning. Lux ran off laughing.

Several former Dodgers stars came together to celebrate Tommy Lasorda bobblehead night. Ron Cey, former pitching coach Rick Honeycutt, Eric Karros, Rick Monday, Manny Mota, Chan Ho Park, Steve Yeager and Fernando Valenzuela swapped stories about their late Hall of Fame manager in the dugout before the game. They joined fans in the traditional shout of "It's time for Dodger baseball!" as the crowd tipped their caps to the sky. Lasorda's granddaughter, Emily, bounced a throw to manager Dave Roberts for the ceremonial first pitch, with Lasorda's daughter, Laura, looking on. Lasorda died in January at 93.

## Mariners 5, Red Sox 4

In Seattle, Mitch Haniger made Boston pay for a costly error by first baseman Kyle Schwarber, hitting a three-run home run with two out in the seventh inning, and the Seattle Mariners held on for a 5-4 win over the Red Sox on Monday night.

The opener of a critical three-game series between the AL wild-card contenders went the way of the home team, thanks, in part, to four unearned runs allowed by the Red Sox.

None was more damaging than Schwarber's mishandling of Jake Bauers' grounder with two out in the seventh. Reliever Ryan Brasier (0-1) got the ground ball needed to get out of the inning, but Schwarber misplayed the bounce and Bauers was safe.

J.P. Crawford followed with a broken-bat single and Brasier left a slider in the middle of the plate to Hangier. He didn't get all of it, but it was enough to clear the wall in left field for his 33rd homer of the season. Haniger went 4 for 4 and homered for the third straight game.

The Mariners also scored an unearned run in the second after an error by right fielder Hunter Renfroe. The Red Sox have allowed 33 unearned runs since the All-Star break, most in the American League.

Boston didn't go quietly. Xander Bogaerts and Rafael Devers hit back-to-back homers with two outs in the eighth off Seattle's Paul Sewald. It was the third straight appearance Sewald has allowed a long ball after allowing just four in his first 48 games this season.

Sewald escaped the inning, and Drew Steckenrider pitched the ninth for his ninth save. Seattle pulled within two games of Boston in the jammed AL wild-card standings.

Seattle rookie Logan Gilbert threw six strong innings in his best outing since early July, when he threw seven shutout innings against the Yankees. Rediscovering the feel for his slider, Gilbert allowed five hits and matched his career high with nine strikeouts. The most important of those strikeouts came against the final batter he faced. With Xander Bogaerts at third following a leadoff double, Gilbert struck out Alex Verdugo to end the sixth inning and keep the game tied.

Jose Iglesias homered for the first time since Aug. 6, and later had a bloop RBI single off Gilbert.

Boston starter Eduardo Rodriguez allowed six hits and one earned run over six innings. He struck out six.

## Giants 9, Padres 1

In San Francisco, the Giants became the first major league team to clinch a playoff spot this season, hitting four home runs to beat the San Diego Padres 9-1 on Monday night for their season-high eighth consecutive victory.

After finishing 29-31 in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, the Giants have done a complete turnaround in manager Gabe Kapler's second season. They have the best record in baseball (94-50) with 18 games remaining—nine of them against the Padres, who are trying to win an NL wild card.

San Francisco extended its latest hot streak by getting early power at the plate and steady pitching from the bullpen after opener Dominic Leone threw two strong innings.

Tommy La Stella connected on the fourth pitch from Padres starter Yu Darvish (8-10) and Evan Longoria hit a three-run shot five batters later. Mike Yastrzemski added a solo homer in the fourth when Brandon Belt also went deep as San Francisco secured a spot in the postseason for the first time since 2016.

Zack Littell (3-0) worked 1 2/3 innings of relief and earned the victory.

## Blue Jays 8, Rays 1

In Toronto, Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit his major league-leading 45th home run, Alek Manoah set a career high by pitching eight shutout innings, and Toronto dealt AL East-leading Tampa Bay its fourth loss in five games.

Teoscar Hernández had his first career five-hit game and Bo Bichette added a solo home run, his 24th, as the surging Blue Jays improved to 12-1 in September.

Guerrero moved ahead of Angels two-way star Shohei Ohtani for most home runs in the majors. He also eclipsed the single-season high set by his Hall of Fame father with Montreal in 2000.

Manoah (6-2) allowed just one hit, walked none and struck out 10 in snapping a five-start winless streak.

Rays left-hander Ryan Yarbrough (8-5) allowed seven runs and 10 hits in 2 1/3 innings.

## Yankees 6, Twins 5, 10 innings

In New York, Aaron Judge hit a tying three-run homer off Alex Colomé with two outs in the eighth inning, Gary Sánchez lined a winning single in the 10th, and New York overcame a five-run deficit to beat Minnesota.

New York won for just the fourth time in 16 games and closed within a half-game of AL wild-card leaders Toronto and Boston with 18 games to play.

Gleyber Torres was the automatic runner on second when Sánchez singled with one out in the 10th off Ralph Garza Jr. (1-3).

Jorge Polanco and Miguel Sanó hit two-run homers in the first inning, and Byron Buxton added a solo homer for a 5-0 lead in the third.

DJ LeMahieu began the comeback with a sacrifice fly in the sixth. Joey Gallo hit his 33rd homer, his eighth with the Yankees, in the seventh. Judge added his 33rd homer.

Clay Holmes (5-1) pitched the 10th as New York ended a six-game home losing streak, its longest in a decade.

## Cardinals 7, Mets 0

In New York, Adam Wainwright won his fifth straight start in a rare matchup of 40-year-old pitchers, and St. Louis blanked New York.

Paul Goldschmidt homered and had two RBIs for the surging Cardinals, who began the day one game behind Cincinnati and San Diego for the second NL wild card.

New York entered three games behind the Reds and Padres.

The 40-year-old Wainwright (16-7) allowed four hits in six innings with three walks and four strikeouts in a matchup against 41-year-old New York starter Rich Hill.

Dylan Carlson had an RBI double, and Nolan Arenado, Yadier Molina, Edmundo Sosa and Harrison Bader all had RBI singles in the ninth.

Hill (6-7) allowed three runs on six hits and two walks with four strikeouts in five innings.

## Astros 15, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Jose Siri homered twice and added a two-run single in his first big league start, Yordan Alvarez hit a pair of 400-foot homers and AL West-leading Houston overwhelmed last-place Texas.

Siri finished 4 for 5 with five RBIs while scoring three times for the Astros (84-59). Alex Bregman added a two-run homer, while Carlos Correa and Jose Altuve had two-run doubles. Houston built a 9-0 lead after scoring multiple runs in each of the first three innings off three Texas pitchers.

Houston starter Jake Odorizzi left with right foot soreness after coming off the mound and running to cover first base for the first out of the second inning.

Cristian Javier (4-1), the first of five relievers after Odorizzi, struck out six with one walk while allowing one run over 2 2/3 innings.

Rangers starter Spencer Howard (0-4) allowed six runs in 1 1/3 innings.

## Marlins 3, Nationals 0

In Washington, Sandy Alcantara allowed one hit over eight innings and Miami beat Washington.

With two outs in the seventh, Josh Bell lined a single off the base of the right-field fence to end Alcantara's no-hit bid. The right-hander then retired his next four batters, leaving with seven strikeouts and no walks after throwing 96 pitches.

Jesus Sanchez had a first-inning RBI single and Alex Jackson doubled home two runs in the ninth. Dylan Floro worked a one-hit ninth for his 11th save.

Alcantara (9-13) was perfect through five innings before Keibert Ruiz reached on second baseman Jazz Chisholm Jr.'s error to open the sixth.

Paolo Espino (4-5) allowed one run on six hits and three walks in six innings for Washington.

Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws to an Arizona Diamondbacks batter during the first inning of a baseball game Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, in Los Angeles. AP

# Carr's TD pass caps Raiders rally past Ravens 33-27 in OT

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)— Derek Carr threw a 31-yard TD pass to Zay Jones after the Raiders squandered their first possession of overtime, beating the Baltimore Ravens 33-27 on Monday night in the team's first game with fans in Las Vegas.

Carr's second TD pass of the game came after Carl Nassib's strip sack of Lamar Jackson at the Ravens 27. Nassib made big news this offseason when he became the first active NFL player to come out as gay.

The Raiders had thrown an interception after driving to the 1 on the opening possession of overtime and made another blunder with a delay of game before a field goal try.

Coach Jon Gruden then sent the offense back on the field and Carr hit Jones on the next play for the game-winner.

The Raiders trailed 14-0 early, ending a 98-game, regular-season win streak for the Ravens when leading by at least 14 points dating to 2004.

The loss capped a rough stretch for the Ravens, who have had a run of injuries that sidelined top three running backs J.K. Dobbins, Gus Edwards and Justice Hill, as well as cornerback Marcus Peters, for the season.

They had won the past five openers by a margin of 177-26, but came up short in this nail-biter thanks to a strong game from Carr, who threw for 435 yards .

Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) reacts after a play against the Las Vegas Raiders during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, in Las Vegas. AP

The overtime came after a wild back-and-forth fourth quarter that featured the Raiders rallying to tie the game on three separate occasions, with Carr driving Las Vegas to a tying 55-yard field goal in the final 37 seconds.

The Ravens had taken the lead when Jackson scrambled 28 yards to help set up Justin Tucker's 47-yard field goal.

The Raiders earlier got a forced fumble by Quinton Jefferson against Jackson to set up Josh Jacobs' 15-yard TD run, tying the game at 17. The Ravens answered when former Raider Latavius Murray ran it in from 8 yards one play after Jackson found Sammy Watkins on a mismatch for a 49-yard pass.

Carr then connected on a 37-yard pass to Henry Ruggs III that set up a tying 10-yard TD to Darren Waller with 3:44 to play.

## SPECTACULAR PLAY

Jackson's TD pass to Marquise Brown in the first half was a spectacular individual effort. He escaped pressure from Maxx Crosby and Yannick Ngakoue and scrambled before finding Brown in the back of the end zone for a 10-yard score.

According to NFL NextGen stats, Jackson took 7.84 seconds to throw for the fifth longest on a TD pass in the past five seasons and scrambled 27 yards for his most ever on a TD.

## GO FOR IT

The Ravens went for it twice on fourth down in the first half, getting a 35-yard TD run from Ty'Son Williams on one of the first. Murray got stuffed by K.J. Wright on the second.

The Raiders got stopped on a fourth-and-1 run by Jacobs at the Ravens 13 in the third quarter.

## SLOW START

The Raiders got off to a sluggish start offensively after sitting most of their starters in the preseason. A holding penalty and botched snap spoiled a promising first drive that reached the Ravens 21 before going backwards and ending in a punt.

The Raiders then punted on the next three drives, marking the first time in 15 years they punted on the first four drives of the season.

They found a groove late in the half with a 75-yard drive capped by Jacobs' 2-yard run and then getting a 34-yard field goal from Daniel Carlson to make it 14-10 at the break.

# Analysis: Some debuts rocky, others uplifting in NFL Week 1

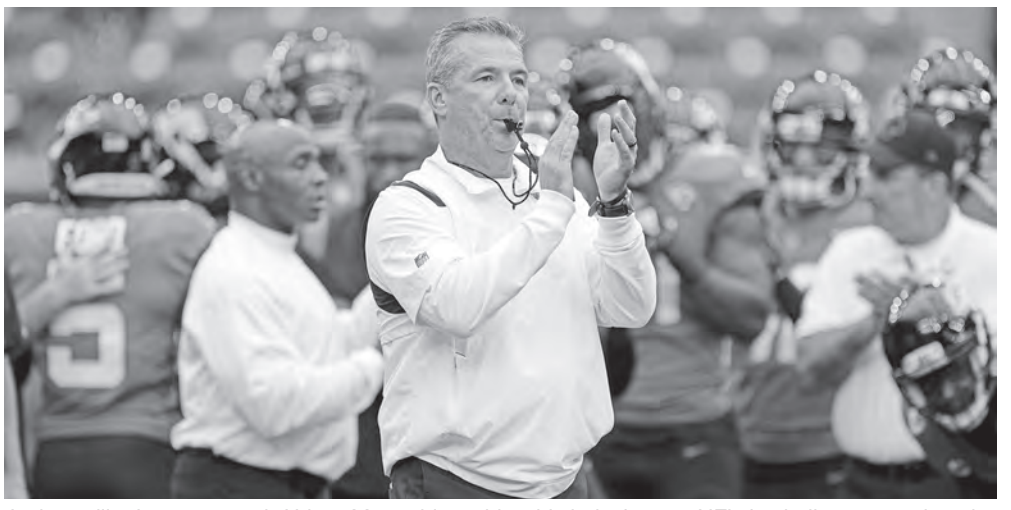
By BARRY WILNER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

How difficult is achieving a successful debut in the NFL? Ask Urban Meyer and Arthur Smith, new head coaches whose teams looked as if they were still in spring workouts.

Compounding that, Meyer's Jaguars and Smith's Falcons were routed by Houston and Philadelphia, generally projected to be among the league's worst outfits — and also led by new head coaches.

"I did a really poor job getting us ready to go," Smith said after a 32-6 home loss to the Eagles. "That game is not going to define us. It's a long season to go, but I certainly didn't do a good enough job getting us ready to go today."

The first time around was kinder to the Texans' David Culley, the Eagles' Nick Sirianni and the Chargers' Brandon Staley, as well as for some not-quite newcomers to the league but now in different environs: quarterbacks in their first starts for current teams, such as Jameis Winston for New Orleans, Tyrod Taylor of Houston, Teddy Bridgewater of Denver, and Sam Darnold of Carolina.



Jacksonville Jaguars coach Urban Meyer blows his whistle before an NFL football game against the Houston Texans Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in Houston. AP

As for the kiddie QBs, it was a down day: Trevor Lawrence and Zach Wilson, the top two overall selections in the draft, plus first-rounder Mac Jones, all lost.

New England's Jones performed the best in a 17-16 defeat to Miami. He also had a lot more help than the Jets' Wilson, who struggled badly in the first half and then came on in a 19-14 loss at Carolina. Lawrence, whose assessment of his performance made him sound like an actor in a Broadway play about to close after one night, was part of that ignominious 37-21 Jags flop in Houston.

"Losing is always hard, especially when you feel like you are prepared and had a great week," Lawrence said. "I really think we were ready and obviously didn't play well. It starts with me. I didn't play well, for sure.

"I played really bad."

The other two first-rounders, San Francisco's Trey Lance and Chicago's Justin Fields, each contributed touchdowns for their clubs.

This season's seven new head coaches combined to go 3-4 in Week 1. The Jets' Robert Saleh saw his club victimized by its former QB, Darnold, and by Christian McCaffrey, who was brilliant after a 2020 basically lost to injury. Detroit's Dan Campbell saw the Lions fall into a deep hole before a stunning comeback but a fruitless outcome as they lost 41-33 to the 49ers.

Staley's Chargers won at Washington, 20-16.

Opening weekend of the NFL season always is challenging for favorites. That seemed extrapolated this year by the lack of appearances in preseason games for so many regulars. Such projected powers or contenders as Buffalo, Tennessee, Indianapolis and Green Bay were either mediocre or worse.

Belying that, though, were the showings by Winston, Taylor, Bridgewater and Darnold.

Winston was a wizard in replacing Drew Brees, throwing for a career-high five touchdowns. Taylor did perhaps as much as the man he is replacing, Deshaun Watson, might have with his 291 yards and two touchdowns. Darnold threw for a score and ran for one in beating the Jets. Bridgewater completed 28 of 36 passes for 264 yards and two scores, sharing the ball with nine receivers, in a victory at the Giants.

"I saw a guy in total control and when he had to improvise, he did," Broncos coach Vic Fangio said of Bridgewater. "Some of those were on big, big plays. He's been doing that his entire career when he's been a player. He showed it today."

Jacksonville's Meyer had the biggest descent, given his credentials. He lost the first season opener of his head coaching career after entering the game having won 17 straight openers as a college coach.

"There's only one answer," Meyer said. "That's the great thing about this sport. It's not like we have to make a secret pass call or protection call, it's just work. That's the greatest thing about the game of football, go out and work and that's what we shall do."

# Former 49ers, Saints LB Parys Haralson dies at age 37

Parys Haralson, a former linebacker for the San Francisco 49ers and New Orleans Saints, has died. He was 37.

The 49ers announced Haralson's death on Monday. No details were provided.

Haralson also served as San Francisco's director of player engagement for two years.

"Parys was a beloved member of our organization that lived life with an extraordinary amount of passion and joy, while leaving an indelible mark on everyone he came across," the team said in a statement. "We extend our condolences to Parys' family and loved ones."

Haralson played college ball at Tennessee before he was selected by San Francisco in the fifth round of the 2006 NFL draft. He was a two-time captain for the Volunteers and finished with 21 sacks.

Haralson played in 118 NFL games, including 88 starts. He had 380 tackles, 28 sacks, five fumble recoveries, three forced fumbles and five passes defensed. ***(AP)***

# Lakers trade Marc Gasol's rights back to Memphis Grizzlies

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers have traded the rights to Marc Gasol back to the Memphis Grizzlies, where the 36-year-old center spent his first 11 NBA seasons.

The Lakers also sent a second-round pick in 2024 and cash to Memphis on Friday in exchange for the draft rights to Chinese big man Wang Zhelin.

In this April 6, 2021, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers center Marc Gasol (14) drives as Toronto Raptors forward Chris Boucher (25) defends during an NBA basketball game in Tampa, Fla. AP

ESPN then reported the Grizzlies intend to waive Gasol, who plans to begin the new NBA season at home in Spain. The move saves the Lakers about $10 million against the salary cap and the league's luxury tax.

The 36-year-old Gasol averaged a career-low 5.0 points and 4.1 rebounds per game last season with the Lakers, who signed him to a two-year deal last November. The 7-foot-1 center never found a regular role in the injury-plagued Lakers' rotation while they lost in the first round of the postseason.

Gasol's role for the upcoming season looked increasingly tenuous this summer after the Lakers signed centers Dwight Howard and DeAndre Jordan, who officially returned to Los Angeles on Thursday. The Lakers also weren't even certain Gasol wanted to return for another NBA season, prompting them to stock up on big men.

Gasol made three All-Star teams during his career with the Grizzlies, who first acquired his rights from the Lakers in the trade sending his older brother, Pau, to the Lakers in November 2008.

Gasol was traded from Memphis to Toronto in February 2019, and he won a championship ring later that season.

Gasol is averaging 14.0 points, 7.4 rebounds and 3.4 assists per game in his NBA career as a playmaking center with strong defensive abilities as the former NBA Defensive Player of the Year. Those skills never translated into consistent contributions with the Lakers, who acquired center Andre Drummond near the trade deadline last season.

## NBA BRIEFS

### Cavs sign veteran point guard Kevin Pangos to 2-year deal

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—The Cavaliers signed point guard Kevin Pangos to a two-year deal, his agency announced Wednesday on Twitter.

The 28-year-old Canadian spent the past six years playing in Europe.

"Hard work pays off," Priority Sports tweeted after Pangos signed. The Cavaliers have not announced the signing.

Pangos most recently played for Zenit Saint Petersburg, where he averaged 13.5 points and 6.6 assists while being named All-EuroLeague.

One of Cleveland's offseason priorities was adding depth to its backcourt. The Cavaliers acquired veteran Ricky Rubio this summer in a trade with Minnesota and Pangos gives them another guard with experience.

Pangos can also help mentor young guard Darius Garland, who is heading into his third NBA season.

Pangos played ball at Gonzaga, where he set the school record with 322 3-pointers—a mark that stands. The 6-foot-2 Pangos was not drafted after he left the Zags in 2015.

He played in Canada's national program and helped his country clinch a berth in the 2019 FIBA World Cup.

### Raptors approved to play games in Toronto

**TORONTO** (AP)—The Toronto Raptors have gotten approval from the Canadian government to play games at their home arena this season, a team spokesman said Friday.

Toronto played last season in Tampa, Florida, because of travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's not clear whether the team will be allowed to have full attendance at Scotiabank Arena. Fans who attend games will be required to show proof of vaccination.

The Raptors will open their preseason against the Philadelphia 76ers on Oct. 4—their first game at Scotiabank Arena in more than 19 months.

The Raptors announced a five-game preseason schedule on Friday that includes two home appearances. They'll also host Houston on Oct. 11.

They open the regular season on Oct. 20 when they host Washington.

Toronto's last game in its home arena was Feb. 28, 2020.

## IT&E

*From Page 20*

Hopwood 2 on South Court at 5:15pm. For the 6pm games, it will be SCS battling Tanapag Middle School on North Court and Francisco M. Sablan Middle School squaring off against Hopwood 1 on the South Court. Matches in the middle school division will be played every Wednesday and Friday with the eight Saipan-based teams competing in a round-robin regular season. Tinian and Rota will later join the playoff round that will be held on Oct. 8 and 9.

"It will be an exciting basketball season for our students and the schools, especially now that we have IT&E to support us in the development of our interscholastic program. Through the help of IT&E and the CNMI PSS leadership, we will provide our student-athletes a platform to highlight their performance in the league. We will also provide support to their coaches in a form of workshop and clinics to help them grow the basketball program in their respective schools," Lee said.

To highlight this year's interscholastic league, the NMIBF will pick players for the All-Island Selection in five divisions, recognize player of the week in every level, and hand out other individual and group awards at the end of each competition.

"We thank IT&E for this partnership and the opportunity to help strengthen our interscholastic program and showcase the potential of our student-athletes," Lee said.

After the girls middle school division, the IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League will have the girls high school matches in November, co-ed elementary and boys high school in January, and boys middle school in March. ***(PR)***

## KIA

*From Page 20*

gomery paced Devil Dog with 19 markers.

In the first game last Monday, Rampage (6-1) moved to second place in the standings following its 76-61 conquest of winless Power Builders (0-6).

Wesley Walker started Rampage on the right foot, firing 6 points to give his team a 15-9 lead after a quarter of play. J.R and Darwin Libut rallied Power Builders back in the game in the second, combining for 13 markers as they only trailed 30-32 at the halftime break.

But Walker had other plans in the third and with help from Jayron Epity erected a double-digit spread that they wouldn't yield the rest of the way. J.R. Libut almost matched Walker's 8 points in the fourth quarter with 7 of his own, but the latter got a lot of help from his teammates handing Rampage the runaway victory.

Rampage and Power Builders players in action in the 2021 Island-wide Men's BudLight Basketball League last Monday night at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium. CONYTRIBUTED PHOTO

Walker scored 25 points to lead Rampage, which also got 20 points apiece from Epity and Leo Pascua. J.R. Libut led Power Builders in the loss with 20 markers, while Darwin Libut added 11.

### First Game

**Rampage 76** – Walker 25, Pascua 20, Epity 20, Erickson 5, Borja 3, Epity 3.

**Power Builders 61** – J. Libut 20, Castro 12, D. Libut 11, Apatan 10, Sanchez 6.

**Scoring by quarters:** 15-9, 32-30, 57-45, 76-61.

### Second Game

**Team Kio 78** – Reyes 30, D. Sablan 24, Cruz 11, Sanchez 9, P. Sablan 2, Cabrera 2.

**Devil Dog Warriors 48** – Montgomery 19, Kada 9, Kubinski 6, Ogaldez 5, Beal 2, Wayland 2, Deconcilis 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 9-14, 36-22, 55-42, 78-48.

## RUN

*From Page 20*

be cleaning up trash during the race or after or both!" he said.

As an incentive, Dela Cruz said runners will have a chance to win awesome raffle prizes by picking up trash. He said runners that take the time to pick up trash and turn in their trash bag at the finish line will be entered in a raffle drawing after the cleanup.

"Salty Skin Pacific will be giving out prizes for runners that collect trash while running the 5K route. Whoever comes back with a bag of trash during this fun run will be automatically entered in raffle drawing for prizes after the race. Please help us this Saturday and join the entire island in cleaning up our beaches. It's time for our runners to join the cause."

Aside from this Saturday being International Coastal Cleanup Day 5K, the race will also serve as Marshall Hoskins final race on island as the winner of Run Saipan's April, June, July, and August races is set to leave the CNMI.

"This Saturday we will be bidding farewell to our brother Marshall Hoskins as it will be his last 5K with us that morning. He leaves the very next morning back to the U.S. mainland. If anyone wants to get that last time race in with Hoskins this is your last chance this Saturday," said Dela Cruz.

Check-in time for Run Saipan's International Coastal Cleanup Day 5K is 6am at Ladder Beach. For more information, call Dela Cruz at 287-0891, email runsaipan@gmail.com or click on this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf-_eejq1cVRuAy2psx4zVFUs3FqWa0eILRSYcSML2p1vZZw/viewform?fbclid=IwAR1zbS_Hm6YycO1LTEh6J1WNqkqkjDRir-sKiH-f-XhmsBTfmbm8mzwnC1Q.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tampa Bay | 89 | 55 | .618 | – |
| Toronto | 81 | 63 | .563 | 8 |
| New York | 80 | 64 | .556 | 9 |
| Boston | 81 | 65 | .555 | 9 |
| Baltimore | 46 | 97 | .322 | 42½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 82 | 61 | .573 | – |
| Cleveland | 69 | 72 | .489 | 12 |
| Detroit | 68 | 76 | .472 | 14½ |
| Kansas City | 65 | 78 | .455 | 17 |
| Minnesota | 63 | 81 | .438 | 19½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 84 | 59 | .587 | – |
| Seattle | 78 | 66 | .542 | 6½ |
| Oakland | 77 | 66 | .538 | 7 |
| Los Angeles | 70 | 73 | .490 | 14 |
| Texas | 53 | 90 | .371 | 31 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 76 | 66 | .535 | – |
| Philadelphia | 72 | 71 | .503 | 4½ |
| New York | 72 | 73 | .497 | 5½ |
| Miami | 61 | 83 | .424 | 16 |
| Washington | 59 | 85 | .410 | 18 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 89 | 55 | .618 | – |
| Cincinnati | 75 | 69 | .521 | 14 |
| St. Louis | 74 | 69 | .517 | 14½ |
| Chicago | 65 | 79 | .451 | 24 |
| Pittsburgh | 52 | 91 | .364 | 36½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-San Francisco | 94 | 50 | .653 | – |
| Los Angeles | 92 | 53 | .634 | 2½ |
| San Diego | 74 | 69 | .517 | 19½ |
| Colorado | 66 | 78 | .458 | 28 |
| Arizona | 47 | 97 | .326 | 47 |

**z-clinched playoff berth**

### NFL STANDINGS

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 17 | 16 |
| Buffalo | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 16 | 23 |
| N.Y. Jets | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 14 | 19 |
| New England | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 16 | 17 |

**South**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 37 | 21 |
| Indianapolis | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 16 | 28 |
| Jacksonville | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 21 | 37 |
| Tennessee | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 13 | 38 |

**North**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cincinnati | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 27 | 24 |
| Pittsburgh | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 23 | 16 |
| Baltimore | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 27 | 33 |
| Cleveland | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 29 | 33 |

**West**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 27 | 13 |
| Kansas City | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 33 | 29 |
| L.A. Chargers | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 20 | 16 |
| Las Vegas | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 33 | 27 |

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 32 | 6 |
| Dallas | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 29 | 31 |
| N.Y. Giants | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 13 | 27 |
| Washington | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 16 | 20 |

**South**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Carolina | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 19 | 14 |
| New Orleans | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 38 | 3 |
| Tampa Bay | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 31 | 29 |
| Atlanta | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 6 | 32 |

**North**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 14 | 34 |
| Detroit | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 33 | 41 |
| Green Bay | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 3 | 38 |
| Minnesota | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 24 | 27 |

**West**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arizona | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 38 | 13 |
| L.A. Rams | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 34 | 14 |
| San Francisco | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 41 | 33 |
| Seattle | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 28 | 16 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saipan Tribune
Sports

# IT&E is title sponsor of interscholastic hoops

Long-time CNMI sports patron IT&E is on board the island-wide interscholastic basketball program of the Public School System and the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation.

IT&E will be sponsoring not one, but all five divisions of the 2021-2022 season, ensuring that the interscholastic basketball league will be up and running this month until April next year.

"This sponsorship is another great way for IT&E to support the community. Basketball has been an integral part of life here in the CNMI. When I moved here in 2008, I remembered we sponsored one youth team and we continue to support sports squads from other sports every time there's a tournament. Today, we are very pleased that we will be able to support, not just one team, but an entire league made up of students and teachers/coaches," said Rob Harrel, IT&E executive director for Customer Operations.

IT&E CNMI general manager Rose Soledad, center, IT&E executive director for Customer Operations Rob Harrel, right, and director of Network Operations and Engineering Velma Palacios, third left, pose for a group photo with Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation officials, led by president James Lee, left, yesterday at the IT&E office in Susupe to formalize IT&E's title sponsorship of the interscholastic basketball league 2021-2022 season. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We are excited to see both public and private school students compete and represent their schools. Basketball is a great sport, it unITEs people from different cultures, and provides opportunities for our community members. IT&E is happy to be able to help offer these opportunities to students," Harrel added.

## Games kick off today

The IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League will kick off today at the Marianas High School Gymnasium and will feature competitions in the girls middle school division.

Saipan Community School and Hopwood Middle School 1 will play in the opening match at 4:30pm, while other matches scheduled for today are Dandan Middle School vs Mt. Carmel School on MHS North Court and Grace Christian Academy against

See IT&E on Page 19

# Kia throttles Devil Dog to win battle of undefeated teams

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Robert Reyes and Dustin Sablan combined for 54 points to lead Team Kio to a 78-48 victory over Devil Dog Warriors last Monday night in the 2021 Island-wide Men's BudLight Basketball League at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

With the win, Kio remains the only undefeated team in the league with a 6-0 record, while Devil Dog lost its first game to drop to 5-1.

Devil Dog actually led the game early with Jake Montgomery going nuts with 8 points in the opening quarter to give his team a 14-9 spread. Kio, however, started to flex its muscles in the second canto led by Sablan and Lucio Sanchez. The former ignited for 11 points and the latter 9 as Kio entered halftime now in control of the game, 36-22.

Reyes took over the scoring reins in the third quarter, firing 11 points as Kio maintained its double-digit advantage, 55-42, with a quarter to go in the contest. Damian Kada tried his best to keep Devil Dog in the game in the third by unloading 8 markers.

It was all Kio in the fourth and final quarter, as Reyes continued to scorch anyone assigned to guard him, while the rest of his teammates held the fort on defense. Kio limited Devil Dog to a 6 measly points in the final 10 minutes and scored 23 points themselves.

Reyes punched in 30 markers to lead Kio, while Sablan added 24 in support. Mont-

See KIA on Page 19

Team Kio and Devil Dog Warriors tip it off at center court in the 2021 Island-wide Men's BudLight Basketball League at the Tinian Multi-Purpose Gymnasium last Monday night. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Run Saipan's International Coastal Cleanup Day this Saturday, Sept. 18, at Ladder Beach will also serve as Marshall Hoskins final race on Saipan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Run Saipan to have International Coastal Cleanup Day 5K race

By MARK RABAGO
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Run Saipan's next underground run will be in honor of International Coastal Cleanup Day this Saturday, Sept. 18, at Ladder Beach.

Edward Dela Cruz Jr., Run Saipan president, said the International Coastal Cleanup Day 5K will be held in partnership with Salty Skin Pacific.

"In honor of International Coastal Cleanup Day, Run Saipan's monthly fun run this month is in partnership with Salty Skin Pacific and its partners to help in cleaning the Ladder Beach area for this 5K race. Runners will

See RUN on Page 19